

Hafa Adai!

2 of 3 defendants plead guilty to 'ice' smuggling. **PAGE 5**

17 PSS students earn distinctions as AP Scholar awardees. **PAGE 9**

75¢

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 197

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FRIDAY OCTOBER 4, 2019

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## U-TOP 5-year Managaha contract is now in effect

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Managaha master concession contract awardee, a large tour and travel operator company based in Hong Kong, has executed its contract as master concessionaire of the islet starting October 2019.

A representative for U-TOP Investment (Saipan), Inc. told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that their contract agreement

with the Department of Public Lands went into effect starting this month.

See U-TOP on Page 4

## Santos: What happened to AC units for Rota schools?

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

been installed in both schools up to now.

Sen. Teresita Santos (Ind-

Rota) is seeking clarification on a measure enacted last year to provide new air-conditioning units for both the Sinapalo Elementary School and the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. Sr. High School, yet not



Santos

Rota) is seeking clarification from Education Commissioner Glenn Muña about what happened to the funding provided in Public Law 20-68.

P.L. 20-68 appropriated over \$20.88 million in supplementary air-conditioning unit has

See SANTOS on Page 4

## USCIS: Workers with expired visas aren't overstaying until Nov.

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
erwin\_encinares@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services clarified yesterday that workers would not accumulate overstay for working beyond their status expiration within October 2019.

In response to a question

from *Saipan Tribune*, USCIS noted that a CW worker could continue working throughout October 2019 even with an expired status—if the worker is expecting a Temporary Labor Certification or TLC.

"USCIS would not consider a CW-1 worker to have

See USCIS on Page 4

### INITIATION RITES

Antonio "Tony" Urmeyang Piaulug will be initiated tomorrow, Oct. 5, in a "Pwo" ceremony, a traditional and rare initiation ceremony for open ocean celestial navigators in Micronesia. The ceremony will be done at the Seafaring Traditions Canoe House in Susupe.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Story on Page 4



## DOC officer is arrested for 'ice' possession

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A Department of Corrections officer was arrested Tuesday night for alleged possession of methamphetamine, while a Corrections lieutenant is facing a traffic case for allegedly driving while under the

### » DOC lieutenant facing DUI

influence of alcohol and other charges.

*Saipan Tribune* opted to withhold the name of the corrections officer in the drug case for the meantime until he is formally taken before the court.

In the traffic case, court documents show that Correc-

See DOC on Page 4

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

Jigz Barbershop & Beauty Salon is turning 10 years old this month.

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### NATION

Agitated and angry, President Donald Trump is squaring off against House Democrats.

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### LIFE & STYLE

Opera star Placido Domingo resigns as general director of the Los Angeles Opera.

PAGE 24



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## Local

### EOC reports 2 earthquakes in the CNMI this week

By **MARC A. VENUS**  
marc\_venus@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management's Emergency Op-

erations Center reported two earthquakes that occurred in the CNMI this week, the first being at 4.9-magnitude earthquake centered at 254 kilometers northwest of Farallon de Pajaros last Tuesday and the second a 4-magnitude earthquake located 132 kilometers northeast of Agrihan yesterday.

EOC reports that the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center did not issue any tsunami warnings or advisories.

Last Monday, an earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.6 occurred off the coast of central Chile, and the National Weather Service's Pacific Tsunami Warning Center also reported no tsunami threat to the CNMI or Guam.

For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000. The EOC Warning Point also states possible area advisories for military trainings happening on other islands in the CNMI, special weather and marine advisories for the CNMI.

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As long as the parole program for the CNMI continues, the Marianas Visitors Authority has no problem with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's new regulation that cuts down to just 14 days the previous 45 days allowed for Chinese tourists to visit the CNMI.

"For as long as the parole will not be revoked, MVA will continue to welcome [tourists from] the People's of Republic of China," said MVA managing director Priscilla Maratita Iakopo in response to *Saipan Tribune's* request for comments about the new DHS regulations.

Iakopo said it is critical for the Commonwealth to continue the parole program, tourism being the driving engine of the CNMI's economy.

She noted that, in most cases, Chinese tourists normally do not stay longer than three to four days.

In a separate interview, MVA board vice chair Gloria Cavanagh said the 14-day stay for Chinese tourists is fine and that the former 45-day stay catered to a different market—birthing tourism—and threatened the CNMI's parole program.

She pointed out, though, that birth tourism is happening not just in the CNMI, which has a really small number. "It is also happening in L.A. It's happening in Florida. So, any of the ports of entry from China. It's happening there," she said.

At the same time, Cavanagh emphasized that the CNMI's market is basically the regular tourists that are coming here for vacation.

Earlier, Cavanagh, as chair of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, said the 14-day stay limit has no effect on hotels.

Cavanagh said a regular Chinese tourist typically stays anywhere from three to five

days in the CNMI.

Effective yesterday, Oct. 3, CBP, through a statement citing a previously published Federal Register Notice ef-

fectively omitting the Russian Federation from being eligible for the CNMI-only parole authority, announced that there would be new requirements

imposed on both airline carriers and Chinese tourists before they can enter the CNMI.

Chinese tourists are only allowed to enter the CNMI

through the parole program for a maximum 14-day stay in the CNMI instead of the previous allotted 45 days. (*Ferdie De La Torre*)

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# MVA also fine with 14-day stay for Chinese tourists

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# Sacred 'Pwo' ceremony on Saturday

A traditional and rare initiation ceremony for open ocean celestial navigators in Micronesia will be done this Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019, in the Marianas.

Grand master navigators Ali Haleyalur and Sesario Sewralur arrived on Saipan yesterday to carry out the sacred initiation of "Pwo" for

Antonio "Tony" Urmeyang Pailug. Sesario and Tony are the sons of grand master navigator Pius "Mau" Pailug and the ceremony will be the first

one ever in the CNMI.

"Pwo" is a sacred ritual for individuals who have successfully concluded a rigorous course of training in traditional wayfind-

ing and are initiated into the secrets of master navigators.

"Pwo" means pounding. We have the pounding stone that we pound the taro or breadfruit. The name 'pwo' comes from the pounding stone. It is like pounding all the knowledge into the person. When you are initiated into the 'pwo' ceremony, it means you are getting all the knowledge required for you to learn in the navigational term. And, right after when the 'pwo' is finished, you are called 'Pwo,'" said Haleyalur.

The "Pwo" ceremony will begin on Oct. 5 at 9am and conclude on Oct. 8 at 11am at the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture Seafaring Tradi-

tions Canoe House in Susupe.

Though it is rare, the public is invited to witness the sacred "Pwo" ceremony. However, during the ceremony, silence must be observed and the canoe house will be off-limits. There will be a designated seating area for the public to observe and listen to the rituals and chants. Once, the ceremony concludes on Oct. 8, the public will have the opportunity to enter the canoe house and meet the navigators.

The "Pwo" ceremony is made possible by the DCCA-CCAC in partnership with the Carolinian Affairs Office, Indigenous Affairs Office and Palau Community College. For more information, call 322-9982 or email dccamarinas@gmail.com. (PR)



## RED CROSS SUPPORTERS

The Joeten Daidai Foundation and TSL Foundation have both come out in support of the 30th Annual Club 200 of the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter. The Joeten Daidai Foundation has signed up as a Super Salsa donor (\$15,000), while the TSL Foundation is a chair donor (\$5,000). For more information about Club 200 Latin Nights-Hot and Spicy Salsa on the Sand or how to volunteer, call the Red Cross at 234-3459.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

## U-TOP

From Page 1

According to the representative, the company was awarded the contract on June 4, 2019. Working with DPL and the Office of the Attorney General, the company announced yesterday that the contract, which starts October 2019, is now in effect.

Future plans for Managaha, according to the company's representative, include upgrading and improving facilities and working with cultural non-profit organizations and government agencies.

"Future improvements include refurbishment, upkeep,

maintenance of existing facilities, and adoption of thatched roofs for visitor pavilions. Several pavilions are in disrepair since Typhoon Soudelor and Super Typhoon Yutu," the representative noted, adding that the timeline is an estimated six months, starting from the issuance of the notice-to-proceed on the repairs.

Overall priorities for the company include adopting biodegradable and eco-friendly food packaging for the food court—including cutting down on single-use plastics—and providing guests with reef-safe sunscreen; partnering with environmental organizations and educational institutions on environmental

campaigns, monthly beach cleanups, and the adoption of floating classrooms using traditional outrigger canoes; enhancing visitor experience through cultural demonstrations and guided walking tours; and facility upgrades.

"All of these efforts will enhance the guest experience at Managaha, allowing visitors to experience the full beauty of the island while also enjoying the comfort, convenience, and good customer service," the representative noted. "U-TOP places a premium on protecting the environment and have committed to minimizing any potential negative impacts on the people and environment."

The terms of the master

concession agreement on Managaha will be for a period of five years, with an option to renew for another five years, at the discretion of DPL.

U-TOP was one of two companies that responded to an April 2018 request for proposal from the DPL to operate the Managaha master concession.

Tasi Tours was the previous master concessionaire for Managaha. Since the expiration of their contract with DPL last August 2016, it has been operating the concession on a month-to-month basis. Tasi Tours did not reportedly submit a proposal when the master concession contract came up.

any authority to excuse late filings for CW-1 renewal petitions based on "limited circumstances."

The new deadline of Nov. 1, 2019, would only apply to petitions properly filed with an approved TLC from USDOL, with a starting date on or after Oct. 1, 2019; if USCIS receives the petition no later than 30 days after the date of TLC approval or before Nov. 1, 2019, whichever is earliest; and if the expiration date of the currently approved petition is on or after Sept. 1, 2019.

## USCIS

From Page 1

violated the terms and conditions of authorized stay if the worker continues employment during the month of October consistent with the scope of employment in a pending TLC application for extension, until the employer files a CW-1 petition received before Nov. 1 based on approval of the TLC, or it is apparent that the employer will not be able to comply with the guidance for

any reason," an agency representative told *Saipan Tribune*.

This means that expired CW-1 visa holders can continue working without accumulating "bad time" while waiting for their TLC applications for fiscal year 2020 and if the worker remains in line with the visa holder's profession.

The statement also clarified that CW-1 workers with expired status can continue working if the employer files a CW-1 petition before Nov. 1, 2019, based on the U.S. Department of Labor's approval

of a TLC or if the employer would apparently not be able to comply with the new requirement, such as a denial of the TLC from USDOL.

No clarity was provided on the steps that should follow a denied TLC.

On Sept. 25, 2019, USCIS announced that it would still consider CW-1 renewal petitions even after it had already expired only until Nov. 1, 2019. The extension of the deadline, according to the agency, was made by exercising the agency's discretion-

## DOC

From Page 1

tions Lt. Frederick Kotomar Billy is being charged with DUI, improper U-turn, accident, and reckless driving.

Billy heads the Department of Corrections Internal Affairs.

In the drug case, *Saipan Tribune* learned from sources that Drug Enforcement Task Force members arrested the corrections officer for possession of methamphetamine Tuesday night, but subsequently released him as the task force and the Office of the Attorney General were still trying to complete documents needed for a court hearing.

Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds confirmed yesterday that an initial appearance hearing for the corrections officer may likely be held today, Friday.

No other details were avail-

able surrounding the officer's arrest as of yesterday.

A source said a small amount of methamphetamine was involved in the case.

In Billy's case, he appeared for his scheduled arraignment last Sept. 5 at 9am before Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja.

Naraja found Billy not eligible for court-appointed counsel and ordered him to hire his private attorney.

Naraja continued the arraignment for Oct. 10 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Jonathan Robert Glass Jr. is handling the case.

According to a traffic citation/complaint issued by police officer E. Ogumoro, the DUI incident involving Billy happened along Isa Drive on Capital Hill last July 21.

Billy was driving a black 2017 Toyota vehicle.

The Department of Public Safety has yet to release information about the incident.

## SANTOS

From Page 1

tal funding to many government agencies, one of which was for the purchase of 41 air-conditioning units and one riding mower for the RHI Jr./Sr. High School.

In her letter to Muña, Santos said, "Since the beginning of the school year, no [air-conditioning] units have been installed at either school," adding that there was a reported oral agreement that 25 air conditioning units will be procured for the RHI Jr. Sr. High School and 16 for Sinalo Elementary School.

"The public schools on Rota have requested from the local delegation for funds to procure the much-needed air-conditioning units. The children's welfare and learning environment [is being] compromised because of this inadequacy," she said.

"I have called your office on numerous occasions and left

messages with your secretary to discuss this urgent matter. However, all my calls went unreturned," she noted.

Santos seeks to clarify whether PSS had received the funds and, if so, what PSS has done, to date, to procure the air conditioning units.

"I understand that times are tough and funds are not always transferred to PSS in a timely manner, thus open collaboration is necessary to ensure that appropriated funds are used for their specific purpose. Collaborated efforts will yield better results," she added in her letter.

In a separate interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Santos noted that a request for proposal for the air-conditioning units were reportedly published early this year. She noted that there were bidders who reportedly submitted proposals, but no awardees were announced.

*Saipan Tribune* reached out to Muña last night but he did not respond as of press time.



## 2 of 3 defendants plead guilty to 'ice' smuggling

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The remaining two of three defendants indicted over the shipment of a package to a post office box that contained 110.03 grams of methamphetamine pleaded guilty in federal court last Tuesday.

At separate change of plea hearings, Vince Koki Leon Guerrero and Evelyn Chon Tydingco pleaded guilty to the indictment charging them with conspiracy to possess over 50 grams of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute.

The offense carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a minimum sentence of 10 years and a maximum fine of \$10 million.

Both defendants will be sentenced on Jan. 17, 2020 at 9am.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona allowed the two to remain at liberty until their sentencing, saying the U.S. Probation Office has reported that they've been compliant with the terms and conditions the court had previously set.

Steven P. Pixley and David Banes are the court-appointed counsel for Leon Guerrero and Tydingco, respectively. Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe appeared for the U.S. government.

Last Sept. 25, a third defendant in the case, Elaine Francisco Demei, 26, pleaded guilty to the same offense. Demei's sentencing will also be on Jan. 17, 2020.

Manglona also allowed Demei to remain free until her sentencing.

Mark B. Hanson is the court-appointed counsel for Demei.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreements, between Feb. 15 to 21, 2018 in the District of the NMI and elsewhere, Leon Guerrero conspired with Tydingco and Demei, along with others, to possess over 50 grams of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute it to others on Saipan.

As part of the agreement, a package containing methamphetamine was sent from California addressed to "Debbie Lee, at a post office box on Saipan.

The package arrived on Saipan on Feb. 21, 2018, and the three picked it up at the post office in San Vicente, each knowing the package contained methamphetamine.

The drug in the package had a net weight of 110.03 grams and an approximate purity level of 100%.

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# Hopwood students thank SNILD for funding school repairs

By MARC A. VENUS  
marc\_venus@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Student leaders and staff of Hopwood Middle School visited the Legislature yesterday to express gratitude to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation for allocating \$250,000 to Hopwood for the repair and reconstruction of its main campus in Chalan Piao, which sustained catastrophic

damage during Super Typhoon Yutu.

Each student was given a chance to tell lawmakers about their experiences at the temporary Hopwood campus beside Koblerville Elementary School. All of them expressed a desire to get out of the temporary tents and get back to their old campus.

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) said it was moving to hear so many students refer

their old campus as "home."

The \$250,000 allocated to Hopwood was the sum total of the many precincts chipping into the pot: Precinct I gave \$50,000; Precinct II allocated \$150,000; Precincts IV and V each gave \$25,000.

Hopwood's main campus was destroyed by Super Typhoon Yutu last October 2018, and classes were transferred to a temporary tent facility.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has just enacted House Local Bill 21-28, which becomes Saipan Local Law 21-10. This local law appropriates \$3 million from the Casino License Fee to Saipan for various project and programs, which include the repairs of Hopwood Middle School and other schools.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, Hopwood principal Dr. Rizalina Liwag said that Hopwood has been

working with Education Commissioner Glenn Muña to kickstart the school's transition back to its main campus. The Public School System reported that it is expecting about \$24 million from the Federal Management Agency for the repair and renovation of the main campus. The project is currently on hold as PSS is still waiting for FEMA's project worksheet for the campus.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Saipan Community School National Junior Speech and Debate team poses for a group photo.

## SCS congratulates NJSD team

Saipan Community School congratulates its team of students who participated in the National Junior Speech and Debate competition last Saturday, Sept. 28, at the Northern Marianas International School.

All six SCS students who took part in the competition secured 12 placement awards. The students who represented SCS at the contest were:

### 6th graders

■ Katrina Wu, who placed 5th Place in Dramatic Interpretation and 5th Place in the Prose A event.

■ Sheryne, who placed 5th in the Prose B event.

■ Alfred Baek, who placed 1st in Prose A event and 2nd in the Humorous Interpretation event.

■ Lola Guerrero, who placed 4th in Dramatic Interpretation and 4th in Prose B.

■ Hilah Bacani, who placed 1st in Humorous Interpretation and 2nd in Prose A.

### 7th grader

■ Soledad Sablan, who placed 1st in Poetry A, 2nd place in Storytelling, and 2nd in Prose B.

For more information about SCS, contact principal Amanda Dunn via principal@saipancommunityschool.com, call 234-6687 or visit the school along Beach Road in Susupe. (PR)

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 <p><b>2017 NISSAN ROGUE SV</b> STOCK # HW381082 FWD, 4 CYL 2.5 L, AUTO CVT Est. Mileage: 28,244, Color: GREEN</p> <p><b>\$20,995</b></p>	 <p><b>2017 KIA SPORTAGE LX</b> STOCK # H7293333 AWD, 4 CYL 2.4 GDI, AUTO Est. Mileage: 8,200, Color: PEARL SNOW WHITE</p> <p><b>\$21,595</b></p>	 <p><b>2016 KIA SEDONA LX</b> STOCK # G6225205 FWD, V6, 3.3 L, Auto, 6-Spd Est. Mileage: 32,000, BLUE</p> <p><b>\$21,995</b></p>	 <p><b>2017 HONDA ACCORD LX</b> STOCK # HA142666 FWD, 4 CYL i-Vtec 2.4L, AUTO Est. Mileage: 7,888, Color: WHITE</p> <p><b>\$21,995</b></p>	 <p><b>2019 KIA SOUL SX</b> STOCK # K7691090, FWD, 4-Cyl, Turbo, 1.6 Liter, Automatic, 7-Spd w/Dual-Clutch &amp; Sportmatic Est. Mileage: 5,009, Color: WHITE</p> <p><b>\$22,695</b></p>
 <p><b>2016 KIA CADENZA PREMIUM</b> STOCK # G5200548 FWD, V6, GDI, 3.3 Liter, 6-Spd OD Sprmtc Est. Mileage: 14,688, Color: WHITE</p> <p><b>\$22,995</b></p>	 <p><b>2017 NISSAN FRONTIER CC S</b> STOCK # HN701586 4WD, V6 4.0 L, AUTO, Est. Mileage: 25,600, Color: SILVER.</p> <p><b>\$23,995</b></p>	 <p><b>2017 KIA SEDONA EX</b> STOCK # H6343505 FWD, V6, 3.3 Liter, Auto, 6-Spd OD Sportmatic Est. Mileage: 32428, Color: GRAY</p> <p><b>\$24,995</b></p>	 <p><b>2017 NISSAN TITAN S</b> STOCK # HN550235 4WD, 5.6L V8, Auto 7 spd Est. Mileage: 10,333, White</p> <p><b>\$24,995</b></p>	 <p><b>2016 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER XLE</b> STOCK # GS118555 2WD, V6 3.5 L, AUTO Est. Mileage: 27,500, SILVER</p> <p><b>\$25,995</b></p>
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# Oct. 6-12 is National 4-H Week

By IVA MAURIN

iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

To highlight the important role that 4-H plays among the youth in the CNMI and to showcase the incredible ways that 4-H inspires the youth, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios has proclaimed the week of Oct. 6-12 as National 4-H Week in the Commonwealth.

After signing the proclamation at the Northern Marianas College yesterday, Palacios credited the NMC-Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services with hosting the 4-H Program, as well as the Youth Affairs Office and the Division of Youth Services for their help in spreading the youth empowerment message of the 4-H program.

Founded in the 1950s, 4-H is America's largest youth development organization, supporting nearly six million youth across the country. The program has helped over 15,000 youth in



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios is joined in this photo by Northern Marianas College interim president Frankie Eliptico, NMC Board of Regents chair Charles Cepeda, 4-H Marianas members, and NMC-Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services officials, after Palacios proclaimed Oct. 6-12 as National 4-H Week in the Marianas.

## Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan and the Veterans' Affairs Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives

announce a

# Veterans' Listening Session

**Monday, October 7, 2019  
9:00AM-11:00AM  
American Memorial Park  
Visitor Center Theater**

Veterans will have the opportunity to share issues and concerns with the Chairman and Members of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

For questions, please contact your Congressional Office at 670-323-2647.



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the CNMI to become confident, independent, resilient, and compassionate leaders.

"This organization is providing life-long skills to a lot of people across the nation," Palacios said. "And so, it is something that we need to try to improve and perpetuate in the Commonwealth."

NMC interim president Frankie M. Eliptico said that 4-H "[plays] a very critical role not just here at NMC in developing leaders, but also in developing leaders for our whole community."

Eliptico also praised the 4-H Club for getting \$20,000 from having won the "Raise Your Hand" initiative last July, beating all 50 states, as well as territories, in the nationwide call-to-action for 4-H alumni, supporters, and friends to vote to win funding for their 4-H state program.

Robert Suzuki Jr., who served as the first president of 4-H at NMC, started the club in 2015. "For us to have this avenue to gain skills like leadership, responsibility, citizenship, giving back to our communities is what made us fall in love with this program," Suzuki said.

4-H is delivered by Cooperative Extension, a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation that provides experiences where young people learn by doing through hands-on projects in important areas of health, science, agriculture, and civic engagement.

For more information about 4-H in the CNMI, contact the Family, Community and Youth Development program of NMC-CREES at 237-6841.



## 17 PSS students earn distinctions as AP Scholar awardees

Seventeen Public School System students mastered the skills, concepts, and content necessary to earn the prestigious Advanced Placement Scholar Awards, which were based on the 2019 AP exams administered in May. The College Board's AP program provides students the opportunity to earn college credit through rigorous college-level work in high school.

The College Board recognizes four levels of achievement based on student performance and AP exams. The highest level of academic distinction is National AP Scholar, followed by AP Scholar with Distinction, AP Scholar with Honor, and AP Scholar.

Five students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average score of 3.5 or higher on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. The honorees include Cole Chambers, Tian En Chen, Dai Podziewski, Jonah Pohl, and Marielle Sambalay.

Twelve students were awarded the AP Scholar honor by earning a score of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. Recipients include Natalie Montano, Mica Camacho, Shea Hartig, Yi Huang, Kate Ishida, Seung Ju Lee, Ruoxiang Lu, Nicole Mascarinas, Philip Lorenz Punzalan, Xue Zhe Qui, Mimi Sakano, and Emma Timmons.

Last May, 520 CNMI PSS Advanced Placement students combined to take a total 602 AP exams across various subject areas: English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition, Calculus, Chemistry, Statistics, Computer Science, U.S. Government & Politics, Psychology, and World History. About 22 percent of the 2.2 million students worldwide who took AP exams performed at a sufficiently high level to also earn an AP Scholar Award.

The CNMI Public School System congratulates these students on their exceptional achievements and wishes continued success to those who have graduated from high school. PSS looks forward to continued academic celebrations for students who are currently taking AP courses this school year. (PR)

The CNMI Public School System congratulates these students on their exceptional achievements and wishes continued success to those who have graduated from high school. PSS looks forward to continued academic celebrations for students who are currently taking AP courses this school year. (PR)

The CNMI Public School System congratulates these students on their exceptional achievements and wishes continued success to those who have graduated from high school. PSS looks forward to continued academic celebrations for students who are currently taking AP courses this school year. (PR)

## CHCC Grants Office wins ASTHO Vision award



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Elke Shaw-Tulloch, left, chair of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials Nominations, Awards, and Membership Committee, present Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Grants Management Office administrator Vince Camacho, center, and CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña with the ASTHO Vision Award.

By **MARC A. VENUS**  
marc\_venus@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials recognized the Commonwealth Health Care Corp.'s Grants Management Office last September with a first-place award in the Category B of ASTHO's Vision Awards.

CHCC GMO administrator Vince Camacho and CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña received the ASTHO Vision Award last Sep. 25 in Bethesda, Maryland.

ASTHO recognizes exemplary state and territorial health programs that demonstrate creative and innovative approaches to addressing local health jurisdiction needs and challenges.

The purpose of the Vision Awards is to provide peer recognition for state and territorial health programs, and to promote awareness and replication of successful state and territorial health programs and initiatives.

To be eligible to apply for a Vision award, a program or initiative must be administered by a state or territorial health agency like CHCC and have been operational for at least

one year. CHCC submitted its application before the deadline last May and competed in Category B of the Vision Awards, a category for programs with budgets of less than \$250,000.

The CHCC GMO was established in 2016 and Muña's initial vision was for the office to function as and oversight office for all CHCC grant programs to ensure compliance with audit requirements and federal regulations. However, during the program's activation, it was realized that the office would function much more effectively as a coordination center for all CHCC program interactions with CHCC accounting, grantor agencies, and other related parties. This led to more efficient processing and monitoring of all program activities. The GMO has developed new policies and procedures for grants management and has assisted CHCC finance in helping to respond to audit findings and reduce questioned costs over the past three years.

The GMO looks forward to implementing more system improvements in collaboration with CHCC administration and programs.

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For more information, call the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence at 234-3878 or email [info@endviolencenmi.org](mailto:info@endviolencenmi.org). (\*while supplies last)



@EndViolenceNMI





# Judiciary mourns loss of Ursula I. Lifoifoi-Aldan

The CNMI Judiciary joins the rest of the CNMI government, family, and friends in mourning the death of Chief Probation Officer Ursula I. Lifoifoi-Aldan, who passed away in San Diego, California on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019. She was one of the CNMI's most dedicated and longest serving probation officers.

Lifoifoi-Aldan leaves behind a record of over 29 years as a law enforcement officer with the Judiciary, four years as acting chief of Labor with the Executive Branch's former Department of Commerce and Labor, three months as an assistant to the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, and four months as a counselor for the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Her extensive government service also includes memberships in criminal justice stakeholder groups such as the CNMI Family Violence Task Force, the CNMI Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalition, the Criminal Justice Information System Committee, and the Sex Offender Registration administrative board. Lifoifoi-Aldan also served the CNMI as a board member of the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance board, a scholar-



Chief Probation Officer Ursula I. Lifoifoi-Aldan passed away in San Diego, California on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ship oversight authority under the Office of the Mayor of Saipan.

Initiated into the ranks of adult probation supervision as a Probation Officer I in 1981, Lifoifoi-Aldan became a Probation Officer II in 1985, Probation Officer III in 1995, and Chief Probation Officer in 2002. She was recognized as the first female Chief Probation Officer for the local judiciary, serving almost 17 years in this capacity. From late 2012 to early 2017, Lifoifoi-Aldan was tasked by Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro to simultaneously serve as the deputy director of law enforcement for the CNMI Judiciary, supervising both the Office of

Adult Probation Services and Marshals Service Division for nearly five years.

The American Probation and Parole Association named her the annual awardee for their organization. Also, in 2017, Lifoifoi-Aldan bested other managers and was the recipient of the CNMI Judiciary's coveted Chief Justice Award.

"It is indeed a very sad time for the third branch of government. Our mold remediation and air-conditioning problems, [Super] Typhoon Yutu's destruction of the Guma' Hustisia, and now this—losing one of our most valuable employees in the Office of Adult Probation and Supervision. When we are asleep, Ursula and her

team made sure our community on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota were safe. Thank you, Ursula. You were an awesome leader in the Judiciary. We will surely miss you," said Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro.

Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja said that Lifoifoi-Aldan was affectionately known as "Ulang" in the Judiciary and, having served for more than 29 years, was known as one of the longest-serving member of the Judiciary family.

"She was a personification of NMI Judiciary values and dedicated every day to protecting community safety and assisting victims through offender rehabilitation. ... She will be missed dearly by the Judiciary family," Naraja said.

Lifoifoi-Aldan's community service included various roles in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa's Santa Remedios Parish and other church groups, and as a "Common Sense Parenting" instructor for the program under the Division of Youth Services with the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

A dedicated wife, mother, and grandmother, Lifoifoi-Aldan leaves behind her loving husband of 35 years, Francisco "Boy" Aldan, four daugh-

ters—Plumeria Joy, Skye Lynn, Oceana Pia, and Sunny "Sunshine" Frank—sons-in-law Kolani Castro, Edwin Hofschneider, Jr., and Kyle Song-song, and five grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held

today, Oct. 4, 2019, at 11am at the Nuestra Señora Bithen Delos Remedios (Santa Remedios) Church in Tanapag. Interment services will follow at the public cemetery in Tanapag. (PR)

## FEMA home rebuilding to begin on Tinian

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will soon begin reconstruction work on homes on Tinian that were destroyed by Super Typhoon Yutu in October 2018.

FEMA's Permanent Housing New Construction program will break ground on its first project on Tinian this Friday, Oct. 5, at 1:30pm, at Carolinas Height.

The PHC program is a joint effort between the CNMI government and FEMA and aims to rebuild homes that are move-in ready and are more resilient for future storms.

This program is part of FEMA assistance to the CNMI and is available to those homeowners who registered for disaster assistance with FEMA.

Super Typhoon Yutu made landfall on CNMI in October 2018 and passed directly over southern Saipan and Tinian, causing widespread damage to thousands of homes. Yutu's trail of destruction left

unrecognizable neighborhoods and destroyed dwellings all over the island.

The Permanent Housing Construction program is offered in insular areas outside the continental United States where alternative housing resources are unavailable or scarce, where repairs are neither feasible nor cost-effective. The governor requested the program and FEMA approved and will finance and manage the new home construction. Applicants are approved on a case-by-case basis.

PHC-New Construction homes are designed to codes and standards including mitigation for typhoons and are fully concrete, feature typhoon shutters, and a water catchment system.

Approximately 195 eligible households in the CNMI have elected to participate in PHC-New Construction, including 12 on Tinian. (Saipan Tribune)

## THE 4TH ANNUAL NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE

Presented by  
Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

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More information can be found at [sablan.house.gov](http://sablan.house.gov) or by calling 670-323-2647/8 on Saipan, 433-2647 on Tinian, or 532-2647 on Rota.

*Paid for by official funds authorized by the U.S. House of Representatives*





**COMMUNITY BRIEFS****CWA to host FUN-Raise-Her on Nov. 22**

Tickets are now on sale for the Women's "FUN-Raise-Her" dinner, sponsored by the CNMI Women's Association, a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower women for leadership through education and training opportunities.

The event will be held at the Hibiscus Hall, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, on Friday, Nov. 22, from 6pm to 9pm. All are welcome.

For \$75 per ticket, guests will be treated to dinner and drinks, live music, and a giveaways.

For more information or to buy tickets, contact CWA at 233-9411 or CWA administrator at cwa.fogumoro@gmail.com or visit: <https://www.facebook.com/cnmi-women/>. (PR)

**Emergency water service interruption**

There will be a scheduled emergency water service interruption in the areas of Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road, Airport Road Dandan, As Lito, Lower Dandan, Tottotville and portions of Adobu Drive in Koblerville today, Oct. 4, from 8:30am. to 3:30pm. Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers in these

areas should expect restoration of water service soon after.

The water interruption will allow CUC's water operations personnel to perform repairs on a damaged 6-inch transmission water line on Exploring Drive along the Airport Road in Dandan.

For the safety of CUC men and women working at the site, motorists are advised to proceed with caution when traveling through the area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)

**Join the Marianas Writers' Movement**

A free writing workshop about the first step to planning your novel is set for Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019, from 1pm to 3pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. This project is part of the "Rekindling Marianas Narratives: Write Your Novel!" mini-grant program and is made possible by support from the Northern Marianas Humanities Council, a non-profit, private corporation funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do

not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities. (PR)

**Releasing of renewed PH passports**

The Philippine Consulate General in Guam, in coordination with the Office of Honorary Consul Eli Arago, is releasing passports to those who renewed their Philippine passports last Aug. 15, 16, and 17, 2019. You can pick up the new passports at Finasisu Terraces Apartment Bldg. D, second floor, on top of the Mini-Mart Store, Monday-Friday, from 9am to 5pm (12-1pm break-time). Bring your old passport and receipt. If someone else will pick up the passport, an authorization letter from the applicant/s is needed. For any inquiry or more details, call Mel Santos at 233-6293. (PR)

**NGSWCDB meeting set**

The Northern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District Board will hold its monthly meeting on Friday, Oct. 4, at the University of Guam, College of Natural and Applied Sciences Bldg., Room 104 at 1:30pm. The annual joint meeting with Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District Board is scheduled at 2:30p.m. All government agency and non-government partners are invited to attend. (PR)



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For more information, contact the CNMI Department of Commerce at (670) 664-3018 or visit us at <https://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com/events/4416>.



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**FREE TRAINING!**

Tuesday,  
October 8, 2019

9:00am – 11:00am

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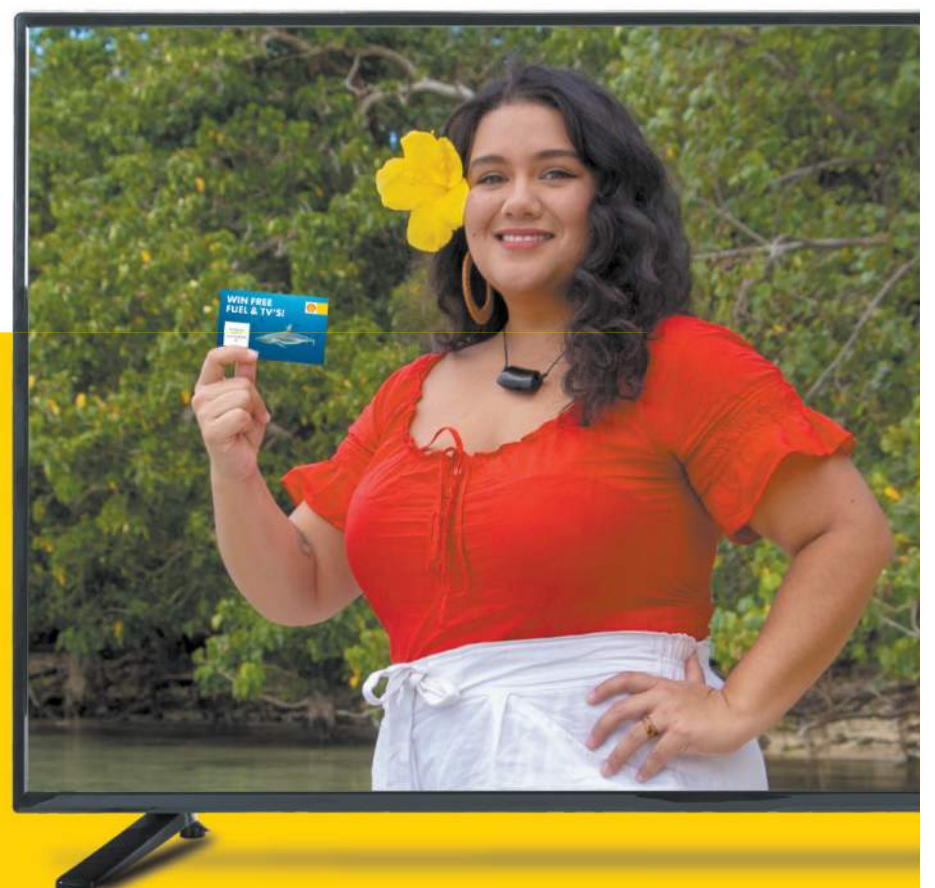
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**1) UPUL LAKSIRI**

**2) LORNA A. NUCUM**





# Oct. is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios sign the proclamation on Tuesday that declares October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month at the Saipan World Resort, as Maise B. Teno-rio, John Cruz, and Lareina Camacho look on.

IVA MAURIN



By IVA MAURIN  
iva\_maurin@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Last year, the Office of the Attorney General prosecuted 73 cases of domestic violence. This was on top of the 239 calls received by the Department of Public Safety regarding domestic abuse.

Worse, the vast majority of domestic violence cases go unreported. On average, 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States. That's more than 12 million women and men over the course of a year.

These sobering numbers were the highlight in Tuesday's proclamation signing at the Saipan World Resort, when the month of October was declared Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

In signing the proclamation, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said that violence is never the answer and he appealed to the perpetrators to stop.

"Please stop hurting the people you love," said Torres. "Violence is not the right way to go. You need to walk away, walk away from whatever situation, get a breather, whatever it is."

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior that one intimate partner uses to gain and maintain control over another and can be in the form of physical, emotional, sexual, and economic control.

The proclamation recognized that, while women make up the largest group of people who experience domestic violence, anyone can be affected by it.

"To those that are suffering now, I hope you have the courage to reach out because help is here. And I wish you the best and I hope that you can get out from that relationship," Torres added.

Anyone in the community is called on to empower victims/survivors by offering resources like the Karidat Victim Hotline number (234-5100), listening without judgement, and reminding them that they are not alone.

Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios expressed appreciation to all advocates and their tireless dedication to increasing awareness on domestic violence.

With "Survivor Strong" as the theme, this year's campaign focuses on "shining light on survivors," those who have experienced domestic violence, or who are currently living with domestic violence.

The schedule of activities in observance of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month include the Saipan Day of Unity on Oct. 5; Day of Prayer on Oct. 6; the Northern Marianas College's Silent Walk at Oct. 9; Rota Night of Unity on Oct. 19; Purple Thursday on Oct. 24; the Saipan Candlelight Vigil for Victims of Domestic Violence on Oct. 25; and the Purple Wave, Walk, & Roll on Oct. 30.

For more information about supporting survivors, call the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence at 234-3878, the Family Violence Task Force at 664-4584, or the National Domestic Violence Hotline website at thehotline.org.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**  
**ADDENDUM NO. 1**

**RFP 19-GOV-136**

**"MULTI-DISCIPLINARY PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY SERVICES FOR THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR"**

**October 03, 2019**

This addendum is issued to re-schedule the proposal questionnaire deadline and the proposal submission and opening deadline.  
 Issuance Date of the Addendum: October 03, 2019  
 Closing Date/Time: October 15, 2019 at 09:30 a.m., Chamorro Standard time is changed to read **November 15, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. Chamorro Standard Time.**

- Pre-proposal Questions – Any pre-proposal questions and/or clarifications shall be submitted to Glenna SP Reyes in writing through mail at [glenna.reyes@gov.mp](mailto:glenna.reyes@gov.mp) no later than 5:00 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time on September 30, 2019 is changed to **no later than the close of business October 30, 2019**. To delete: *The Division of Procurement and Supply shall issue any addenda to address any questions and/or clarifications as necessary, no later than October 10, 2019.* To add: **All questions and answers shall be shared with all prospective/potential proposers.**
- Proposers located outside of the Commonwealth may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposals by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notice of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply **no later than 09:30 a.m., Chamorro Standard Time, October 15, 2019** is changed to read **no later than 10:00 a.m., Chamorro Standard Time, November 15, 2019** and may be transmitted via electronic mail communication to [a.magofna@dof.gov.mp](mailto:a.magofna@dof.gov.mp) or via facsimile to (670) 664-1515.
- Proposals submitted by firms outside the Commonwealth must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service by October 15, 2019 is changed to read **November 15, 2019** and mailed to the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply; P.O. Box 510008, Saipan MP, 96950. The proposal documents must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Capitol Hill, Saipan **no later than the close of business October 24, 2019** is changed to read **no later than the close of business November 26, 2019.**

**All other requirements of the Request for Proposal project package shall remain as stated.**

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

**THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.**

/s/ GLENN A. SP. REYES  
SA, MILITARY AFFAIRS

/s/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

**Nestor Mathew C. Taitano**  
P.O. Box 503730 Saipan, MP, 96950  
789-5921/235-3845 (Nora)

Pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

Nestor Mathew C. Taitano  
Petitioner )  
FCD-DI-CIVIL ACTION )  
NO. 18-0373 )  
vs. )  
Li Li Taitano )  
Respondent )

**SUMMONS**

TO: Li Li Taitano

**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED** and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given to you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Nestor Mathew C. Taitano whose mailing address is P.O. Box 503730 Saipan as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at P.O. Box 500307 Saipan MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgment by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 20th day of September, 2018

/s/ Clerk of Court

**Juan T. Lizama**  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 501508, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel. (670) 234-7220/483-2662

Attorney for Petitioner

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN RE THE )  
MATTER OF: )  
ALEXANDER DLG. )  
BORJA )  
Deceased )

**CIVIL ACTION**  
NO. 19-0292-CV

**AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that on October 24, 2019 at 10 a.m. in the Superior Court in Susupe, Northern Mariana Islands, Alex Olympio Borja will petition the court for Letters of Administration for his appointment as Administrator of the Estate of Alexander DLG. Borja, deceased. The attorney of record is Juan T. Lizama, whose address is: P.O. Box 501508, Saipan, MP, 96950.

Any interested person may appear at this hearing.

All persons having claim against the estate, or against the decedent should file their claim with the Clerk of the Superior Court of the Northern Mariana Islands within 60 days after the first publication of this Notice of Hearing.

Dated this 30th day of September, 2019

/s/ Clerk of Superior Court

**COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
San Jose Village • P.O. Box 502149 • Saipan, MP 96950  
 Tel. Nos: (670) 234-7145/7146/6293/6245 • Fax No.: (670) 235-7147  
 Website: [www.developcnmi.com](http://www.developcnmi.com)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**October 4, 2019**

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION DIVISION (DCD) OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA) THRU ITS CHAIRMAN HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE DCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019 AT 5:00 P.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, CDA BUILDING, SAN JOSE VILLAGE, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

**AGENDA:**

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  - A. Roll Call
  - B. Adoption of Agenda
  - C. Adoption of Minutes
    1. August 15, 2019
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- III. REPORTS
  - A. Executive Director's/Loan Manager's Report
  - B. DCD Funds' Status Report
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
- V. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. New Loan Applications
- VI. OTHER MATTERS
- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Your presence is highly appreciated.

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 1(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ FRANK LEE SN. BORJA  
Chairman, DCD Board of Directors

**Northern Marianas College**  
**Procurement & Property Management Office**  
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.  
 Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 6804  
 E-mail: [ppmo@marianas.edu](mailto:ppmo@marianas.edu), Website: [www.marianas.edu](http://www.marianas.edu)

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**NMC IFB 19-006**

**NMC TEMPORARY BUILDING REPAIR PROJECT**

Northern Marianas College is soliciting sealed bids for the Temporary Repair And Repurposing Project, As Terlaje Campus, Saipan.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. O-1 commencing Friday, September 27, 2019, between the hours of 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Bid Submissions are due no later than 2:00 P.m., October 11, 2019**, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. In accordance with Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is available to local businesses for this procurement.

For Bidders located outside of the CNMI: May request a copy of the IFB by email to Anita Camacho ([anita.camacho@marianas.edu](mailto:anita.camacho@marianas.edu)).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho  
Procurement & Property Manager

A Land Grant Institution accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges and by The Senior Commission for Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges

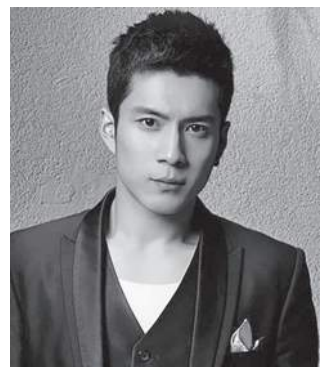
## Rising star Elvis Han visits Marianas

Up-and-coming Chinese actor Elvis Han visited the Marianas on Sept. 23-26, 2019, to explore the tourism offerings of the destination with *OK! Magazine China*, the first news and celebrity fashion weekly in China, emphasizing social media-friendly content.

The 27-year-old Han was named Rising New Actor at the 10th China TV Drama Awards in 2018, Most Fashionable Artist at the 14th Esquire Man at His Best Awards in 2017, and Best Actor (Web Series) at the Golden Gduo Media Awards in 2016 for his performance in *Wu Xin: The Monster Killer*.

In addition to acting, Han is prolific at race car driving, skiing, and other sports. He has over 7.8 million fans on Sina Weibo, one of the most influential social media platforms in China.

"While in the Marianas, Han had the opportunity to explore the islands by land, sea, and air, taking a self-driving tour, a boat ride to our famous Managaha, and a helicopter tour," said Marianas Visitors Authority marketing manager Thomas Kim. "He



Han

also visited some of our most scenic sites, including Managaha, Forbidden Island, Micro Beach, San Juan Beach, and more. The MVA was pleased to support this media [familiarization] tour, which will help familiarize Han's many fans and *OK! Magazine's* readers with our beautiful Marianas."

The tour was also supported by Hyatt Regency Saipan, Century Tours, Kanoa Resort Saipan, and Skydive Saipan.

*OK! Magazine China*, which targets readers ages 17-44 and has a circulation of 800,000, will publish its video and photo coverage of Han's visit in its November 2019 issue. (MVA)



# Senate, NMTI recognize Pauling

By **MARC A. VENUS**  
marc\_venus@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Members of the Senate and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute honored Hyatt Regency Saipan F&B director Ty Pauling during NMTI's graduation last Friday, recognizing his many contributions toward sustaining NMTI's culinary program.

NMTI CEO Agnes McPhetres noted that Pauling is a vital member of the culinary arts program at NMTI as he serves as the lead instructor and that, without his help, NMTI would not be able to have a stable culinary arts program.

Pauling volunteered his professional services at NMTI and became the program's culinary arts director—all without compensa-

tion or fees.

Pauling thanked NMTI and the Senate for opening their doors to allow him to help wherever he can in order to help the CNMI.

"I would also like to thank my family, as the time I have spent with the students at NMTI kept me busy and I had to sacrifice my time with them," he said.

Pauling completed his professional education with a Bachelor of Arts in Culinary Management at the Art Institute of Colorado. He has been with Hyatt Regency in different capacities: as a sous chef and later the stewarding manager at the Hyatt Regency in Canberra and assistant director of F&B at the Hyatt in Perth, both in Australia. He is currently the F&B director of the Hyatt Regency Saipan.



Members of the CNMI Legislature and the Northern Marianas Trades Institute's board of trustees present Ty Pauling with a Senate resolution during NMTI's graduation last Friday. The resolution recognizes Pauling's efforts in helping the CNMI's Culinary Arts Program.

MARC A. VENUS

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**ADDENDUM**  
**RFP 19-CHCC/CGC-SOC-023**

**NEW SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 28, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM**

**"WRAPAROUND ASSESSMENT-COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION-COMMUNITY GUIDANCE CENTER/SYSTEMS OF CARE"**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)/INVITATION TO BID (ITB) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP/ITB. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ CORAZON P. ADA**  
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**RFP 19-CHCC/OUTPATIENT PHARMACY-022**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 28, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM**

**"PHARMACEUTICALS & MEDICAL SUPPLIES SHIPPING-COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION-OUTPATIENT PHARMACY"**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)/INVITATION TO BID (ITB) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP/ITB. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ CORAZON P. ADA**  
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
**Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**

**INVITATION TO BID (ITB)**  
**ITB 19-CHCC/IT-BEH-004**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 21, 2019 TIME: 10:00 AM**

**"IT EQUIPMENT - COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH"**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)/INVITATION TO BID (ITB) FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP/ITB. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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**/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA**  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**/S/ CORAZON P. ADA**  
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**CUC-IFB-19-029**

**MAUI 4 WATER TANK DEMOLITION**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified contractors for the demolition of the Maui 4 Water Tank located in Sadog Tasi, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$100.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **October 9, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** of the bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-19-029 Maui 4 Water Tank Demolition"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 25, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bids shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A **Bid Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 15, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Acting Drinking Water/Wastewater Manager, Yvonne Cabrera via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Technician, Senior via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Executive Director

**MANNY BOYER SABLAN**  
Purchasing Administrator

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**CUC-IFB-19-040**

**Waste characterization and Disposal - CUC Saipan Power Plant No. 1 and Rota Power Plant**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the Waste characterization and disposal - CUC Saipan power plant 1 and Rota power plant, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

*Contractors are advised that the work will be carried out as a part of CUC response actions under the terms of Stipulated Order No.2 (SO 2).*

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$100.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A mandatory **site visit and pre-bid meeting** is scheduled on **October 10, 2019 at 10:00am (ChST)** at CUC Power Plant 1 Administration Building, Lower Base, Saipan, to ensure that the contractors are fully aware of the work involved and familiarize with the site conditions. All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the plant site conditions in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or performance of work under the contract.

**One (1) original and five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB-19-040: Waste Characterization and Disposal - CUC Saipan Power Plant No. 1 and Rota Power Plant"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **October 29, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page - <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 14, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Pranhakara, Utility Coordinator/ ATMO via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Executive Director

**MANNY BOYER SABLAN**  
Purchasing Administrator



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## EDITORIAL

### Impeachment is a grave matter. Proceed with caution

**H**ouse Speaker Nancy Pelosi's decision Tuesday to open a formal impeachment inquiry is a momentous step. Without some caution, it could also be a perilous one for American democracy.

The impetus for Pelosi's pronouncement was a whistleblower complaint by a U.S. intelligence official that alleges misconduct by the president. Donald Trump's administration tried its best to prevent the full complaint from being shared with Congress, which Pelosi said was the last straw. As the details of this case have emerged, it's become evident why the president wanted to suppress them: They show a flagrant abuse of power.

In July, Trump had a phone call with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. According to the complaint, Trump attempted to cajole his counterpart into digging up dirt on former Vice President Joe Biden, Trump's chief rival in the 2020 election, in an effort to help his reelection bid. A summary of the call released by the White House reads for all the world like an implicit quid pro quo is being discussed—and news reports suggest that Trump was withholding military aid from Ukraine at the time. Subtlety has never been a virtue of this administration.

In fact, the whistle-blower described the call as part of a pattern, and even detailed efforts within the White House to "lock down" records of the conversation, suggesting that officials knew full well it was improper. The inspector general for the intelligence community agreed: He thought such conduct could amount to a "serious or flagrant" abuse under the applicable statute and might even expose the president "to serious national security and counterintelligence risks." The acting director of national intelligence, Joseph Maguire, conceded in testimony Thursday that the whole thing was "unprecedented."

More facts are still needed. Justice Department officials who argued that this complaint didn't need to be shared with Congress should expect scrutiny. Everyone involved should have to testify. And the administration should prepare for a grueling investigation.

Unfortunately, though, this incident isn't all that surprising. It's of a piece with how Trump has conducted himself throughout his presidency. He has abused his power, degraded his office, obstructed justice, undermined the Constitution, impeded legitimate oversight, defied court rulings, enriched his family on the public dime, ignored inconvenient laws, asserted nonexistent privileges, declared spurious emergencies to justify his whims, and otherwise acted like a would-be tyrant almost from the day he entered office. At times, it feels as though he's begging to get impeached.

The key for Democrats, as they go down this road, is to focus on these legitimate grievances and otherwise proceed with caution. They shouldn't let this effort devolve into another partisan circus. That means they must avoid grandstanding, resist delving into unrelated controversies and es-

See **IMPEACHMENT** on Next Page

## Glub, glub, glub

**T**itanic mistake

Glub, glub, glub... Well with plenty of notice, fanfare and a drum roll preceding the new Outer Cove money confiscation scheme thinly disguised as a "safety" issue, Tony Benavente over at the Department of Lands and Natural Resources has implemented one of the silliest, most unreasonable and most damaging pickpocket schemes in recent memory.

Destined to reduce, not increase government funding. Destined to go down (pardon pun) as one of the most counterproductive bureaucratic boondoggles of all time. Destined to fail like a dog in grad school. Destined to snarl up boat traffic, cause huge delays and piss off our tourists and our boat operators. In fact I am hard-pressed to find anything at all positive to say about it other than it sets a new, higher standard for poor, unimaginative planning.

In a nutshell, the idea is to close the Outer Cove Marina because it is unsafe. Fact: it was unsafe the day it opened more than 20 years ago. Ask any boat operator who ever used it. DLNR has done nothing over that 20 years to mitigate the problem. It is no more unsafe now than it was 20 years ago. It will be no less unsafe 20 years from now than it is today. The true reason, of course, is to narrow access to only one boat channel so DLNR can better monitor pax numbers and extort a fee for each passenger who embarks on a boat.

That one boat channel is the narrow, shallow, dangerous one into the Smiling Cove Marina where all boat traffic will now be forced at government gunpoint to embark and disgorge passengers. There is not enough room at the transit "convenience" dock to load and unload the tourists and local passengers. There is not near enough room in the dangerous boat channel to accommodate all the boat traffic. The idea is unworkable.

There are 20 better ways to force blood money out of the tourism turnip than this ill-conceived piece of drivel. My boonie dog, a near graduate of the Wharton School, could come up with a better one. Tax them at a toll booth just off the airport property. Tax them a higher fee at Managaha (which is where 95% of those boat using tourists are headed anyway – and where money collection infrastructure is already in place). Allocate part of that new higher fee to DLNR for whatever nefarious scheme they plan to use the money for. Newly paved driveways for all! Heck, just break into their hotel rooms and confiscate some of their cash. Think of the jobs that would create.

So what will this new impediment to business accomplish? It will not fix the Outer Cove in our lifetimes. The ill-gotten funds will not be spent to "maintain" the little transient dock (which has the magical property of being able to expand itself to five times its size when needed). It will, without a doubt, cause some, maybe most, of the existing watersports and boat operators to go out of business. It will thus reduce, not increase, the legitimate taxes and other revenue streams going into the government cof-

## SOUR GRAPES

By **BRUCE BATEMAN**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Bruce A. Bateman resides on Saipan with a wife, a son, and an unknown number of boonie dogs. He has owned and operated a number of unusual businesses and most recently worked as the marketing manager for MVA. Bruce likes to read, travel, tinker with bicycles, hike, swim, and play a bit of golf. He is opinionated and writes when the moon is full and the mood strikes.*

fers. It will not cover Rover's tuition.

Bad dog. No dinner for you.

## Tinian on a roll

With a roll-on, roll-off vehicle/passenger ferry due to start operations in just a few months, Tinian is poised to begin their much needed tourism comeback. Affordable transportation to and from our neighboring island is the key to International tourism and for local visitors too. The ability to take a car along on a weekend trip to Tinian means folks from Saipan can go over and explore the history, culture and beauty of our neighboring island without breaking the bank. It means the beautiful byroad scenery of Tinian will soon be seen by passengers in pink Mustangs and neon yellow Camaros with up-fold doors.

Local tourism and day trips will be very important in this early phase because without the 400-plus room inventory of the Tinian Dynasty, hotel accommodations are limited to about 60 rooms in boutique hotels and inns scattered around San Jose village.

In addition to helping Tinian generate some much-needed cash via tourism, a handy byproduct will be price reductions. Groceries, and most everything else, will likely get cheaper to buy on Tinian with regular ferry and cargo service available every day.

Finally keeping the 25-year-old promise and opening the Tinian International Airport to direct international flights is the key to large volume tourism on Tinian but that is not an option until the room shortage is cured by the big Wyndham opening, or the Dynasty being refurbished or by Alter City Group's planned development for a multi-phase hotel/casino/integrated resort and 18-hole golf course on idyllic Turtle Cove being phased in. The ferry is an excellent start.

Thank you, Bridge Investment Group!

Thank you for reading Sour Grapes !

■■■

"What went down well?" Mum asks, coming back to the table.  
See **GLUB** on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## ‘Not yet, already!’

**T**he wellbeing of our people—neighbors and all—is common knowledge on these isles. People work regular jobs giving it their all to bring home the bacon, so to speak.

In spite of it all family income remains woefully low, mirrored against the skyrocketing cost of living here. I feel for our people who quietly swallow the unsolicited hardship they have to endure from the scourge of “poverty” income.

In brief, we know each other so well, including income. And so if you’re spending over \$100K per year when you’re only making \$18K, wouldn’t your spending spree attract attention?

The national median income is \$65,000 per year. What’s it like in the NMI or are we anywhere close to this?

This is especially suspect and egregiously problematic if you’re a politician, meaning someone is paying for your expenses you can’t pay for with your regular income. Am I making sense? And please don’t tell me it’s founded on friendship. Really?

I’ve seen how corrupt corporate types have pushed their agenda with local politicians that simply destroyed careers. Unless the proposal is conveyed to villagers in open fashion with full explanation it would be rejected. Do you have problems being upfront with issues of mutual interest?

You see, proposals of substance require the expertise of experienced public relations people. Let them handle difficult hurdles to get the plan understood and accepted. Without it the plan, as good as it may be, suffers misperception and subsequent rejection.

**Payables**

A front-page news article says the NMI owes some \$45 million in payables to vendors and others. Gee! That’s a lot of dough to scrounge up to settle outside debts.

It translates into guarding deficit spending in the process that now turns into reduction in “quarterly” allotments. It happens when the economy goes south and all must endure what’s left in the coffers.

**GLUB**

From Page 14

tablish evidence of clear wrongdoing that both parties should be able to oppose. Democrats on the campaign trail—and Biden in particular—should show restraint and let Congress do its work. Nor should the Biden end of the Ukraine story remain immune from scrutiny.

Republicans, for their part, should be willing to follow procedural norms, accept plain facts, and uphold their long-established principles of executive restraint and rule of law. If they oppose impeachment, they should be able to defend the president’s actions on the merits, not resort to conspiracy theories. Principled criticisms by Senator Mitt Romney and Representative Justin Amash should be a model.

All this may sound like a tall order. But the framers of the Constitution never intended impeachment to be a tool for scoring partisan points or sending a message to the president. It’s a grave measure meant to secure his ouster. Both sides should treat this step with the seriousness it deserves, and remember that much more is at stake than politics.

(c) 2019 Bloomberg News

**GLUB**

From Page 14

“Nothing,” I say.

“The *Titanic*,” Elliot says.”

—Zoe Sugg, *Girl Online*

“It’s all about perspective. The sinking of the *Titanic* was a miracle to the lobsters in the ship’s kitchen.”

—Wynne McLaughlin

Full fathom five thy father lies.  
Of his bones are coral made;  
Those are pearls that were his eyes;  
Nothing of him that doth fade  
But doth suffer a sea-change  
Into something rich and strange.

—Ariel, *The Tempest*

**Basic needs**

The phrase sounds familiar, especially for thousands of families here who really need additional monetary help at home.

We’re fortunate to have Medicare and Medicaid handling health needs for the elderly and poor.

Just the fact that nearly 15,000 employees are earning poverty income is a tale and challenge in itself. Is so-called leadership on its toes to improve such condition to upgrade the quality of family life?

Or are they still snoozing on the wheels singing, “I have bent so long I thought it was up.” Is there a plan to improve this issue beyond indifference, arrogance, despondence and ignorance? The tide waits for no man!

**Long, long ago**

Recalled simple lessons in grammar school about eating three square meals a day. It included lots of strange fruits like apples, oranges, pears and grapes, none of which are grown here.

Coming from homes literally struggling in poverty, I wish my teachers had taken the time to find out if their students’ families have the money to buy simple meals. Call it sensitivity!

Every after well-meaning lecture on food, I head home for lunch to munch on boiled banana, taro or breadfruit, salt, and faucet water. It’s a never-ending puzzle—lecture of healthy meals versus reality at home—that I dealt with daily. After a while I got used to ignoring all that I was hearing!

Items I’m supposed to eat are in the veggies and fruits section in large grocery stores. Even the store doesn’t grow them. All are imported from the U.S. and elsewhere. It’s the obvious fallacy promoting what students should eat that they never had at home.

Our livelihood descended with a shift in administration from the Navy to Interior that severely lowered minimum wage from \$.75

## Biden looks bad, too

**J**oe Biden is guilty. No, he is not guilty of breaking a law, at least as far as I know, but he is guilty of a demeaning conflict of interest detrimental to the United States, and he could easily have walked away from it. This is not just another feckless gaffe, some of which, by the way, have more nearly had the appearance of well-practiced tall tales, but a narrative meaning that President Donald Trump is not the only one threatened by the Ukraine mess.

Biden may have to step down as a candidate for president, and if he doesn’t, voters may show him the way to the door. Yes, that could mean Sen. Elizabeth Warren would be the Democratic nominee, an extreme, socialistically inspired enemy of capitalism and lover of major, liberty-devouring spending programs that would wreck our economy. Unlike Trump, her slogan should not be America first, but America third, as in becoming a Third World country. But maybe a Republican, who knows who, could beat her in the general election.

I know, I know that some are saying Biden is innocent and decent and should not be damaged by Trump talking to the president of Ukraine about him and his son. What Trump said was that the Ukrainian president should look into the firing of a national prosecutor who had probed a natural gas company that had the son, Hunter Biden, on its board. This big, wealthy, powerful company had long been seen as the doer of dirty deeds and its criminally suspect owner had had ties with a Russia-supporting Ukrainian president ousted by means of revolution.

Vice President Biden was the Obama’s administration’s point man in the Ukraine and told the government that the prosecutor was corrupt and that he must be fired or it would lose a billion-dollar loan promised by the United States. Ukraine is poor and has been fighting Russian separatists and the man was fired. The action may have been justified, but consider that this lawyer-son had built his career on his daddy’s influence, representing foreign and domestic companies dependent on the U.S. government’s whims and deliberations, and was making \$50,000 a month as a director doing what? It is unclear because, as others

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.*

per hour to \$.16 per hour. It was one hellish hole for families all over.

The personal dilemma never ceases mulling what the teacher said about healthy food and fruits. It triggers my imagination what it would be like eating well as encouraged by well-meaning instructors.

Finally, what they wanted us to eat aren’t a given in family homes. I felt wounded aspiring for items my parents can’t afford. It’s time to check with the reality outside the four walls of the classroom. It must be the notion of promoting ideal family meals that is way beyond what most families could afford. Sensitivity?

**Economy**

The mini-tourism industry is thriving and has seemingly lifted most boats in the harbor. But what if there’s a major shift in, e.g., visitor arrival from Japan and China? Better yet, what have we done to improve upon mini-tourism here?

It’s very unsettling the queries noted herein if something should adversely derail what we have today. I don’t have an answer or perhaps Da Boysis on Da Hill have better perception of what lies ahead thus the obvious lack of any realistic planning. Is this it?

**By JAY AMBROSE**

Tribune News Service



*Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.*

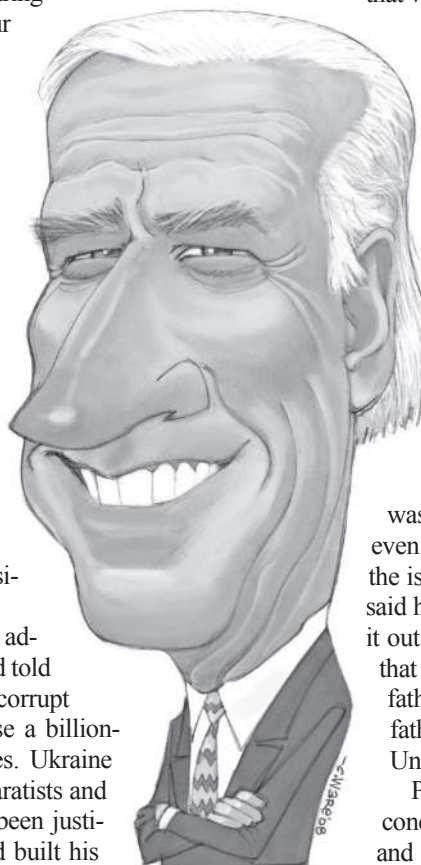
have noted, he had no background in energy or anything else that would matter, just an interesting last name.

In his phone gab with the Ukrainian president, Trump never mentioned taking away American money meant to help in its military pursuits, mainly the training of soldiers, but he did delay its delivery without explanation. It still got there with no Ukrainian acquiescence in anything. Could it be that the Ukrainian president feared Biden more than Trump? After all, it was possible Trump would just last another year or less in office and that Biden could be the next president and that the last thing this Ukrainian official wanted was a President Biden on his case.

Joe Biden has pleaded innocent to a conflict of interest, but early on he knew what was going on because of newspaper reports, and even though he says he never talked to his son about the issue, his son has said he did. Hunter Biden has said he was a director of the company trying to help it out financially and legally, but it is inconceivable that he did not know he was compromising his father, just as it is equally inconceivable that his father did not know the situation might make the United States look corrupt, too, at least to some.






President Barack Obama is said to have been concerned about the son’s since-abandoned job, and Joe Biden could surely have gone to Obama and said, at least on this matter, he did not want to be a point man, or possibly told his son to behave.

It didn’t happen and so you wonder why he decided to risk the worst when other, protective options were at hand.

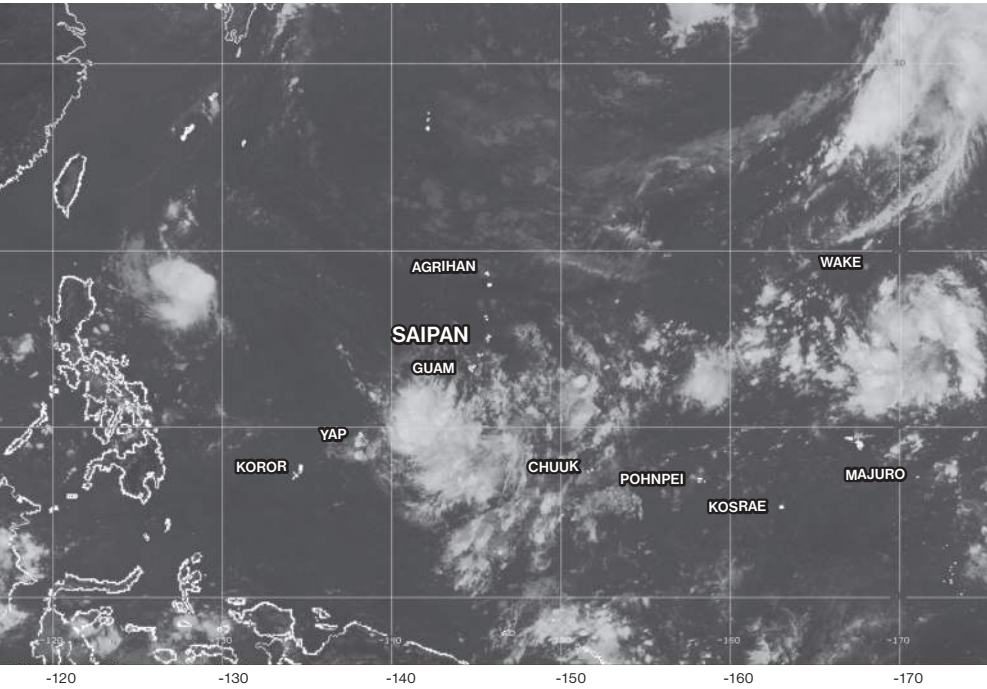




# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	
88°	78°	89°	78°	88°	78°	88°	78°	87°	78°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



**PICTURE TIME: 9:30 AM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2019**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scatterometer analysis from Wednesday night showed a weak monsoon trough stretching across the local area with the axis just south of Guam. North to northeast winds north of the trough will prevail across the Marianas the next few days. Drier air that has pushed into the region north of the trough will persist through the weekend keeping showers isolated.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	85° / 77°	
Palau	Thunderstorm	86° / 77°	
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	88° / 76°	
Majuro	Thunderstorm	86° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Windy	63° / 50°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	66° / 45°	
Hong Kong	Sunny	90° / 79°	
Honolulu	Windy	86° / 76°	
London	Showers	61° / 50°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	80° / 61°	
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 77°	
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	64° / 46°	
Miami	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°	
New York	Sunny	65° / 48°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	81° / 66°	
Paris	Showers	63° / 54°	
Busan	Showers	77° / 63°	
Rome	Sunny	73° / 57°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	98° / 70°	
San Francisco	Sunny	76° / 55°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	72° / 54°	
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	88° / 68°	
Washington, DC	Sunny	72° / 50°	



### NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:45 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.04	
12:53 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.72	
6:28 PM	LOW TIDE	1.15	
11:07 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.64	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:04 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Sunday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM
Monday	6:07 AM	6:02 PM
Tuesday	6:07 AM	6:01 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	11:13 AM	10:48 PM	-
Saturday	12:09 AM	11:40 PM	-
Sunday	1:01 AM	-	-
Monday	-	12:32 AM	1:50 PM
Tuesday	-	1:24 AM	2:35 PM

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:57am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:07am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
BC802	4:45pm	7:30pm	Sep 20 to 22	BC801	10:00am	2:40pm	Sep 20 to 22
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7	7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily	7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7	7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM	UA192/174	9:45pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/174	10:25pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA184/174	11:30pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 3 Sep 29 to Oct 6	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	4, 7 Sep 29 to Oct 6
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	UA116/174	10:45pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily				
GUAM TO ROTA							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily				
SAIPAN TO TINIAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily				
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily				



# Business

## Promos galore as Jigz Barbershop turns 10

By MARK RABAGO

mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Jigz Barbershop & Beauty Salon is turning 10 years old this month. To celebrate the occasion, it will be reviving its rewards cards as well as other promotions.

According to Jigz Barbershop manager Janette “Gigg” R. Hernando, they will be giving away rewards cards to the first 250 customers that drop by the Oleai establishment.

Jigz Barbershop first issued rewards cards 10 years ago when it first started at the VS Sablan Building in Chalan Piao. Under the new promotion, customers earn one stamp for every haircut and could avail of a free haircut on their 11th visit.

Jigz Barbershop will also be giving away free refrigerator magnets to customers while supplies last.

Jigz Barbershop started operations on Oct. 5, 2009, due to the high demand for men’s and boy’s haircuts since there were only a few available barbers on Saipan at that time.

From just two expert barbers—Roger Papa and Alma Anastacio—Jigz Barbershop has grown to six, with Patrick



Kapaw-an, Nестea Villegas, Lena Delos Santos, and Noelle Wong joining them the last couple of years.

“Today, we can proudly

say that we can cater to both men and women. Before, Jigz Barbershop’s customers were around 90% men, but now, women, children, teenagers,

and seniors have started to patronize us,” said Hernando.

With Jigz Barbershop evolving into a beauty parlor, its service has expanded to include not only basic men’s

and women’s haircuts, but also make-up for all occasions, hair coloring, highlights, hair perming, hair rebonding, hair relaxing, hot oil treatments, and brow arching.

MARK RABAGO

Jigz Barbershop & Beauty Salon manager Gigg Hernando, center, poses with the barbers and beauticians of the Oleai establishment.

On top of the rewards card and anniversary refrigerator magnets, Hernando said Jigz Barbershop is also giving discounts on major services like hair-dye, straightening, perms, hot-oil treatments, and more.

Customers can get bigger discounts on a combination of services such as color/highlights, perm/hair-spa, hair-dye/hot-oil, rebond/Brazilian, etc., according to Hernando.

“This promo will not only be for the whole month of October, but would extend until the end of December,” she said. “Anyone can avail of this promo. Just check our beauticians or call for appointments. They can also suggest which and what kind of services you exactly need for your hair type.”

Jigz Barbershop is located on the first floor of the CDA Building in Oleai. It is open from 10am to 7pm Monday-Saturday and from 9am to 3pm on Sunday. For appointments and for more information, call 235-1929.

## Docomo Pacific earns Pika's Best of Guam award 4 years in a row

**TAMUNING, Guam**—Docomo Pacific earned the 2019 Pika’s Best of Guam award for best Mobile, Internet and Cable service provider. The same recognition was awarded to Docomo Pacific in 2018, 2017 and 2016, making this the telecommunication and entertainment provider’s 4th consecutive win in each relevant category. All local mobile, internet and cable service providers were included in the contest.

“We just want to thank everyone who voted for us. We are deeply committed to bringing you amazing products & services, delivered through an unmatched customer experience. To us, this award means more than recognition—it inspires us and gives us purpose to improve further,” said Docomo Pacific president and CEO Roderick Boss.

“At Docomo Pacific, we hold fast to the belief that we are a people company. Connecting people to the things that matter most. Our customers rely on our products and services to connect with family, friends, customers and for entertainment and business needs. They expect speed, reliability and consistent care. That’s why it’s important for

us to deliver innovative solutions while maintaining the reliability of our current network,” he added.

This year, Docomo Pacific was first to launch VoLTE (Voice over Long-Term Evolution), which allows customers to take voice calls using an LTE connection. With a VoLTE-enabled device, customers can experience clearer audio quality and quicker connections.

In addition, Docomo Pacific was also first to 5G with the opening of the Docomo 5G Open Lab Guam. In the short time the lab has been operational, we have seen promising ways the fifth-generation mobile network can benefit our community. Through the Docomo Open Partner Program, the University of Guam is co-creating a solution utilizing Artificial Intelligence to improve security on-campus. Additionally, we recently connected students from Jose Rios middle school with a class in Fukuoka, Japan over a 5G near-there distance learning video conferencing experience. They discussed tourism and its impact on our marine environment. With community and customers driving

innovation we look forward to providing 5G speeds to our customers in Guam and the Marianas soon.

### Promoting a culture of care

Docomo Pacific’s core value of excellence centers around empowering teams to provide the best service to customers. The company believe in acting urgently on customer needs and going out of its way to meet them. Docomo Pacific fosters a workplace that enables and encourages innovation, creativity and ambition, putting quality and genuine care into everything it does. The “Better Together” spirit is unique to Docomo Pacific and it’s the company’s hope that its customers feel it.

### About Docomo Pacific

Docomo Pacific is a wholly owned subsidiary of NTT DCOMO, Japan’s leading mobile operator. Headquartered in Tamuning, Guam, Docomo Pacific is the largest provider of fixed, wireless, internet and cable services in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. Get to know more about what makes us “Better Together” at <http://www.docomopacific.com>. (PR)

## Lawsuits: Nation’s biggest railway companies fixed prices

**BOISE, Idaho (AP)**—More than two dozen major companies ranging from Campbell’s Soup to Kia sued the nation’s four biggest railway companies, contending they had a price-fixing scheme to illegally boost profits.

In the lawsuits filed Monday around the U.S., the companies said BNSF Railway Co., CSX Transportation Inc., Norfolk Southern Railway Co. and Union Pacific Railroad Co. conspired to boost prices starting in 2003 by imposing coordinated fuel surcharges, ultimately pocketing billions of dollars in profits.

The price-fixing allegations have been making their way through U.S. courts for years, with several companies filing similar lawsuits in 2007.

Attorneys then sought class-action status on behalf of 16,000 shippers against the four railroads, but earlier this year a U.S. appellate judge said the cases would have to be brought individually or broken down into groups of similar shippers with similar situations. The deadline for filing those individual cases was Monday.

An attorney for Union Pacific Railroad declined to comment and attorneys for the other three railways did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In previous stages of the lawsuits, the railroads have generally contended that fuel surcharges are common across the transportation industry, that they were legal and simply intended to recover the skyrocketing cost of fuel at the time.

In one of the lawsuits, filed Monday by The Amalgamated Sugar Co. in Boise, Idaho, attorneys said the scheme began roughly 16 years ago amid declining rail rates. At the time, the four railways controlled about 90% of all rail freight traffic in the U.S., according to the lawsuit.

Attorneys for the sugar company wrote that the four railways had meetings, phone calls and email communications through which they embarked on the conspiracy to apply the fuel surcharges to generate profits.

“Prior to conspiring, defendants operated as businesses should: They actively competed against each other over rates generally and with re-

spect to fuel recovery mechanisms to the benefit of their customers,” the lawyers said.

Congress largely deregulated railroads in 1980. Over the next several years, railway companies consolidated, eventually leading to the four big railroad shippers — BNSF and Union Pacific serving much of the West and CSX and Norfolk Southern in the East.

Though the companies are individual entities, they are legally allowed to work together to some degree to ensure the continuity of the nation’s railroad network.

Today, improved technology and data management systems have made railroads more efficient, bringing significant benefits to consumers because businesses can order just what they need when they need it, said Kenneth Button, a professor in the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University.

“In retail you get greater reliability. Everyone knows when their stocks are coming in,” Button said. “All that big data has brought down for the consumer the general prices they are paying.”



# US tariffs on EU goods would include cheese, wine, aircraft

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Trump administration plans to impose tariffs on \$7.5 billion worth of European imports — from gouda cheese to single-malt whiskey to large aircraft — beginning Oct. 18 to retaliate against illegal European Union subsidies for aviation giant Airbus.

The latest escalation in the administration's tariffs will open a new chapter in the trade wars that are depressing the world economy and heightening fears of a global recession. It comes just as the Trump administration is in the midst of trying to negotiate a resolution to its high-stakes trade war with China.

The administration received a green light for its latest import taxes Wednesday from the World Trade Organization, which ruled that the United States could impose the tariffs as retaliation for illegal aid that the 28-country EU gave to Airbus in its competition with its American rival Boeing.

The WTO announcement culminates a 15-year fight over EU subsidies for Airbus.



This March 6, 2018 file photo shows a logo of Airbus group is displayed in front of its headquarters in Toulouse, western France.

EU aircraft will face a 10% import tax; other products on the list will be hit with 25%

tariffs. The administration insists that it has the authority to increase the tariffs

whenever it wants or to later the products in its list.

President Donald Trump called the WTO ruling a “big win for the United States” and asserted that it happened because WTO officials “want to make sure I’m happy.”

“The WTO has been much better to us since I’ve been president because they understand they can’t get away with what they’ve been getting away with for so many years, which is ripping off the United States,” Trump said at a joint White House news conference

with President Sauli Niinisto of Finland.

Stock markets around the world, which were already down on concerns for the world economy, added to their losses on the news.

Wednesday’s award follows a WTO ruling in May 2018 that the EU had illegally helped Airbus with subsidies. It does not, however, end the long-running trans-Atlantic dispute over aircraft. WTO arbitrators are expected to rule next year about how much the EU can impose in tariffs fol-

lowing a separate decision that went against Boeing.

The EU’s top trade official had said the bloc would prefer to reach a settlement with the United States to avoid a tariff war but that it will respond if Trump imposes new duties on EU products.

Speaking after the WTO’s ruling Wednesday but before the Trump administration announced the new tariffs, EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmstrom said a tariff war “would only inflict damage on businesses and citizens on both sides of the Atlantic, and harm global trade and the broader aviation industry at a sensitive time.”

“If the U.S. decides to impose WTO authorized countermeasures, it will be pushing the EU into a situation where we will have no other option than to do the same,” she said.

Italian Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio, who was meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in Rome on Wednesday, vowed to “defend our businesses.” Italian wine and cheeses could face an impact from U.S. tariffs.

Unlike Trump’s unilateral tariffs on billions of dollars-worth of steel, aluminum and other goods from China, the EU and elsewhere, the retaliatory tariffs authorized in the Airbus case have the stamp of approval from the WTO, an organization that he has repeatedly criticized.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel acknowledged “we have lost a matter under WTO law.”

## Shoppers have more options to return online purchases

NEW YORK (AP)—Ahead of the holiday season, shoppers have more options to return unwanted items bought online as retailers look for new ways to drive traffic.

Plenty of retailers like Target and Walmart allow shoppers to easily drop off online returns at their stores. But now, a growing number of retailers are accepting rivals’ returns.

Nordstrom’s new service hubs in Los Angeles and Manhattan accept returns of online orders from any retailer. In July, Kohl’s started accepting Amazon returns in all 1,100 stores, up from 100 previously.

Meanwhile, Happy Returns, a Santa Monica, California-based startup that works with about 30 online retailers, more than doubled the number of drop-off locations to 700.

The moves come as retailers aim to reduce costs while making it easier for shoppers to return online items. The average return rate for online transactions is 25% compared with 8% for store purchases, according to Forrester Research’s online analyst Sucharita Mulpur.

Package delivery giant UPS is adding 12,000 pickup and return locations inside CVS, Michaels and Advance Auto Parts stores. The new locations will bring to 21,000 the number of pickup points UPS has in the U.S.

“Returning a product is annoying,” said Neil Saunders, managing director of GlobalData Retail. “If you

can take some of the hassle by giving customers lots of options, that’s really customer service.”

But Saunders and others note that shoppers need to make sure that they didn’t miss the return deadline. They also need to check other things like whether the items were bought on a retailer’s marketplace of third-party sellers and also how fast can they get the refund. Also, some services like Happy Returns allows shoppers to return online orders in person without a box or label. For others, you need the packaging.

Here are three tips for returning online orders:

**■ KNOW THE RULES WHEN RETURNING GOODS FROM RIVALS:** Through a partnership with technology company Narvar, Walgreens now lets shoppers return online orders at more than 8,000 U.S. locations that have FedEx on-site to partners such as Levi Strauss and Urban Outfitters. Narvar’s concierge service also has drop-off locations at 15 Nordstrom stores for its retail partners. Narvar CEO Amit Sharma says shoppers have to bring in their packaging with the QR code, but in the next few months, the packaging will be available for a fee.

Meanwhile, Nordstrom’s service hubs — mini stores that do not have merchandise on hand — in Los Angeles and Manhattan allow shoppers

to return online orders from any retailer. Customers bring the packaged items, with or without the preprinted return labels, and a salesperson will ship them out. There is no service fee. At the Amazon kiosks at Kohl’s, customers don’t need a box or a label for a free return.

Happy Returns lets customers return items from online retailers including Eloqui, Roth’s and Everlane. Happy Returns “return bars” can be found at shopping centers and other retailers including most recently all 276 Cost Plus World Markets. In return for serving as host for Happy Returns, its online retailer partners promote the locations and offer customers coupons and other deals.

**■ LOOK FOR ECO-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES:** Happy Returns is eliminating cardboard boxes used to ship bulk returns to retailers and substituting them with reusable totes made from recycled plastic. In an effort to reduce waste and make the return process easier, Target is in the process of eliminating packing slips from all orders shipped directly to customers from stores and fulfillment centers. To return an online purchase, customers can mail the items back using a link within their shipping confirmation email or Target.com account, or by looking up the order using the Target app or the card they used for purchase when making a return at a store.

## China-Australia rift deepens as Beijing tests overseas sway

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Australia’s ban on Chinese telecoms giant Huawei’s involvement in its future 5G networks and its crackdown on foreign covert interference are testing Beijing’s efforts to project its power overseas.

In its latest maneuver, China sent three scholars to spell out in interviews with Australian media and other appearances steps to mend the deepening rift with Beijing — a move that appears to have fallen flat.

In a recent press conference at the Chinese Embassy in Canberra, Chen Hong, the head of Australian studies at East China Normal University, accused Australia of acting as a “pawn” for the United States in lobbying other countries against Huawei’s involvement in the nascent 5G networks.

“Australia has been in one way or another, so to speak, pioneering this kind of anti-China campaign, even some kind of a scare and smear campaign against China,” Chen said. “That is definitely

not what China will be appreciating, and if other countries follow suit, that is going to be recognized as extremely unfriendly,” he said.

After meetings in Beijing last week, Richard Marles, the opposition’s defense spokesman, assessed the relationship as “terrible.”

A growing number of Australians are convinced that Beijing has been using inducements, threats, espionage and other clandestine tactics to influence their politics — methods critics believe Beijing might be honing for use in other western democracies.

“Australia is seen as a test bed for Beijing’s high-pressure influence tactics,” said Clive Hamilton, author of “Silent Invasion,” a best seller that focuses on Chinese influence in Australia.

“They are testing the capacity of the Australian democratic system to resist,” he said.

Still, Australian officials have downplayed talk of a diplomatic freeze. They must balance a growing wariness

toward China and their desire for strong ties with the U.S. with the need to keep relations with their resource-rich country’s largest export market on an even keel.

Australia relies on China for one-third of its export earnings. Delays in processing of Australia exports of coal and wine at Chinese ports have raised suspicions of retaliation by Beijing.

While Prime Minister Scott Morrison appeared to side with President Donald Trump on the issue of China’s trade status during a recent visit to Washington, he sought to temper suggestions by Trump that he had expressed “very strong opinions on China” in their closed-door meeting.

“We have a comprehensive, strategic partnership with China. We work well with China,” Morrison replied.

Trump and Morrison did agree that China has outgrown trade rule concessions allowed to developing nations, advantages it insists it should still be able to claim.



# Nation

## IMPEACHMENT STANDOFF:

# Trump sees hoax, Dems see stonewalling

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Agitated and angry, President Donald Trump squared off against House Democrats on Wednesday, packing his increasingly aggressive impeachment defense with name-calling and expletives. Quietly but just as resolutely, lawmakers expanded their inquiry, promising a broad new subpoena for documents and witnesses.

Democratic leaders put the White House on notice that the wide-ranging subpoena would be coming for information about Trump's actions in the Ukraine controversy, the latest move in an impeachment probe that's testing the Constitution's system of checks and balances. They said they'd be going to court if necessary.

Amid the legal skirmishing, it was a day of verbal fireworks.

The president complained that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was handing out subpoenas "like cookies," railed against a government whistleblower as "vicious" and assailed the news media as corrupt and the "enemy." All that alongside a presidential tweetstorm punctuated with an accusation that congressional Democrats waste time and money on "BULL----."

Pelosi said Democrats had no choice but to take on the most "solemn" of constitu-



President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with Finnish President Sauli Niinisto in the Oval Office of the White House, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019, in Washington.

tional responsibilities to put a check on executive power after the national security whistleblower's complaint that recently came to light. The administration and Congress are on a collision course unseen in a generation after the whistleblower exposed a July phone call the president had with Ukrainian Presi-

dent Volodymyr Zelenskyy in which Trump pressed for an investigation of Democratic political rival Joe Biden and his family.

"We take this to be a very sad time" for the American people and the country, Pelosi said. "Impeaching the president isn't anything to be joyful about."

## Trump lets states, cities refuse refugees for 1st time in US

**SAN DIEGO (AP)**—When President Donald Trump dramatically slashed the number of refugees allowed into the U.S., he also gave state and local governments the authority to refuse to accept them for the first time in history.

Last week's move could further undermine a program that has seen an 80 percent drop in the number of refugees allowed in under Trump, who has pushed to limit both legal and illegal immigration.

If governors or lawmakers want to close the door, it could hurt towns with aging populations that have come to rely on young refugees to revitalize their economies.

While conservative states like Texas and Tennessee have sued to halt refugee resettlement or demand compensation for the costs, the mayors of more liberal cities like Austin, Dallas, San Antonio and Nashville have publicly welcomed more people fleeing danger in their

home countries.

Trump's executive order again thrusts states and cities into immigration policy, willingly or not, like when they had to decide whether to work closely with federal deportation officers or become "sanctuaries" that limit cooperation.

The change was announced at the same time Trump cut the number of refugees to 18,000 next year, the lowest level since Congress passed the Refugee Act of 1980.

Trump's order says the federal government and local officials were not coordinating well and the administration was respecting communities that can't take in refugees. Refugees have the right to move anywhere in the United States once they're resettled.

But the new authority for state and local governments could lead to disruptions, disputes and delays, further chipping away at the U.S. resettlement program. The program has long enjoyed bi-

partisan support and was considered a model for protecting the world's most vulnerable people because of close coordination with communities that welcomed refugees, advocates say.

"This order is in effect a state-by-state, city-by-city refugee ban, and it's un-American and wrong," said Mark Hetfield, president of HIAS, a Maryland-based Jewish nonprofit group that helps refugees worldwide find safety and freedom. "Is this the kind of America we want to live in? Where local towns can put up signs that say, 'No Refugees Allowed' and the federal government will back that?"

Fargo Mayor Tim Mahoney, a Democrat, said he hopes North Dakota's Republican governor keeps the door open. He said his city has 500 job vacancies and needs refugees to grow the economy, as does North Dakota, which has 30,000 unfilled positions.

Standing beside her, intelligence committee Chairman Adam Schiff accused Trump of "an incitement to violence" with his attacks on the unnamed whistleblower, who is provided anonymity and other

protections under federal law. He said the investigation is proceeding "deliberately" but also with a sense of "urgency."

Unlike Trump, Schiff never raised his voice but said firmly: "We're not fooling

around here."

Pelosi, in a "Good Morning America" interview that will air Thursday, said Trump is "scared" of the impeachment inquiry and the arguments that can be made against him.

Democrats are now talking of basing an impeachment charge of obstruction on the White House's slow-walking of documents and testimony — administration actions that echo the months of resisting Congress in its other investigations into special counsel Robert Mueller's report and Trump's business dealings.

Ahead of the new subpoena, the chairmen of three House committees accused the administration of "flagrant disregard" of previous requests for documents and witnesses and said that refusal could be considered an impeachable offense.

The standoff took on a defiant tone this week when Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he would not stand for Democrats "bullying" his employees into appearing before the congressional committees, even as he acknowledged that he, too, had been among those U.S. officials listening on the line during the Trump's phone call with the Ukraine leader.

## ACROSS THE NATION

### World War II-era bomber crashes; at least 7 reported dead

**WINDSOR LOCKS, Conn.** (AP)—A World War II-era plane with 13 people aboard crashed and burned at the Hartford airport after encountering mechanical trouble on take-off Wednesday, killing seven of them. The four-engine, propeller-driven B-17 bomber struggled to get into the air and slammed into a maintenance building at Bradley International Airport as the pilots circled back for a landing, officials and witnesses said. It had 10 passengers and three crew members, authorities said. Connecticut Public Safety Commissioner James Rovella said hours after the crash that some of those on board were burned, and "the victims are very difficult to identify." Some of the survivors of the crash were critically injured, authorities said. One person on the ground was also hurt in the crash and a firefighter involved in the response suffered a minor injury. No children were on the plane.

### Man sues Oregon clinic over donated sperm used for 17 kids

**PORTLAND, Ore.** (AP)—A man who says his donated sperm was used to father at least 17 children in violation of an agreement that allowed for no more than five has sued an Oregon fertility clinic. Dr. Bryce Cleary believes it's possible that he has many more children from his sperm donations 30 years ago, the Oregonian/OregonLive reported. The law-

suit filed Wednesday in Multnomah County Circuit Court says Cleary donated his sperm when he was a first-year medical student at Oregon Health & Science University in 1989 after the hospital's fertility clinic solicited him and other classmates. In March 2018, his lawsuit says he began to learn that his sperm donations successfully resulted in the births of some children after two young women, born through the fertility clinic process, contacted him.

### Weather scientist dies in rough surf after forecast of risk

**DUCK, N.C.** (AP)—A top weather forecasting official, who oversaw the government's prediction centers that track ocean, hurricane and even space conditions, has died in rough seas on North Carolina's Outer Banks. William Lapenta, 58, died Monday after lifeguards pulled him from the surf off the coastal town of Duck, local officials said. The National Weather Service had issued a warning earlier Monday about the area's high risk of rip currents, a beach phenomenon that can pull swimmers out to sea. Lapenta was swimming alone and it's not clear if he'd been caught by a rip current, town spokeswoman Christian Legner said Wednesday. Lifeguards pulled Lapenta to shore, but responding emergency medical workers said he was dead at the scene, Legner said. While the specific reason he ran into trouble isn't known, Monday's surf conditions were likely a factor, Legner said.



# Asia

## North Korea says underwater-launched missile test succeeded

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea confirmed Thursday it has carried out its first underwater-launched ballistic missile test in three years, in an apparent bid to dial up pressure on the United States ahead of a weekend resumption of their nuclear diplomacy.

Wednesday's test of the Pukguksong-3 missile, which North Korea describes as a submarine-launched ballistic missile, is seen as the North's most high-profile weapons launch since it began diplomacy with the United States early last year. Some experts say North Korea wants to show to the U.S. what would happen if diplomacy fails again.

The Korean Central News Agency said the missile test in the waters off its east coast was successful and "ushered in a new phase in containing the outside forces' threat to (North Korea) and further bolstering its military muscle for self-defense."

It didn't say which outside forces threaten its security. But North Korea has previously said it was forced to develop nuclear-armed missiles to cope with U.S. military threats.

The KCNA report didn't elaborate on whether the missile was fired from a submarine, a barge or other underwater launch platform. North Korea-dispatched photos showed the missile rising and spewing bright flames above a



cloud of smoke from the sea, but the launch platform was not identifiable.

Kim Dong-yub, an analyst from Seoul's Institute for Far Eastern Studies, wrote on Facebook that the missile was likely fired from a barge built for an underwater launch. He said the missile is under development and that North Korea must test-fire it from a submarine before deploying it.

South Korea's Defense Ministry said the North Ko-

rean missile traveled about 450 kilometers (280 miles) at a maximum altitude of 910 kilometers (565 miles). Ministry officials said the missile flew higher than any other short-range weapons North Korea test-fired in recent months.

KCNA said the missile was launched in a vertical mode and that its test had no adverse impact on the security of neighboring countries. It said Kim sent "warm congratulations" to the national defense

scientific research units involved in the test-firing.

If fired at a standard trajectory, Kim, the analyst, said the missile could have travelled 1,500-2,000 kilometers (930-1,240 miles). He said the Pukguksong-3 is a medium-range missile. North Korea hadn't tested a medium- and long-range missiles since

its entrance to talks with the United States.

North Korean and U.S. officials are to meet on Saturday to restart diplomacy on how to end the North Korean nuclear crisis. That diplomacy largely remains stalemated after the February breakdown of a second summit between President Donald Trump and



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Vietnam.

North Korea has recently warned its dealings with the United States may end if Washington fails to come up with new proposals to salvage the nuclear diplomacy by December.

Pukguksong, or Polaris, is a solid-fuel missile in the North's weapons arsenal. The country first test-launched a Pukguksong-1 missile from an underwater platform in 2016, and Kim said at the time his military had gained "perfect nuclear-attack capability." A year later, the North test-launched a Pukguksong-2, a land-based variant of the missile.

## Friends say ticking clock drove wounded Hong Kong protester

HONG KONG (AP)—Born after the historic July 1 day when Britain handed Hong Kong back to China in 1997, the 18-year-old protester who was shot at close range in the chest by a police officer during violent demonstrations this week and then arrested in the hospital is part of a generation for whom the clock is ticking.

In the lifetimes of young Hong Kong citizens born after 1997, the sands will run out on China's promise \_ enshrined in the territory's constitution \_ that Hong Kong's "capitalist system and way of life shall remain unchanged for 50 years."

That looming deadline and uncertainty about what, exactly, will happen after 2047 weigh like a sword of Damocles in the minds of many people in Hong Kong.

But protesters who have flooded the streets since June are certain about what they don't want: For Hong Kong to become like all of China's other cities, its special freedoms snuffed out, its status lost as

a freewheeling international hub for business and ideas.

Those fears, his schoolmates say, drove Tsang Chikin to become a protest leader in his high school, which bubbled with fury Wednesday following the teenager's shooting during widespread and violent demonstrations that wracked Hong Kong on Tuesday, as Communist leaders in Beijing were celebrating 70 years in power.

As other pupils at the Ho Chuen Yiu Memorial College in Hong Kong's Tsuen Wan district used their lunchbreak to chant in anger, a 17-year-old student who previously joined Tsang on marches said he and others born after 1997 feel that if they don't fight now to defend the territory's liberties, they may never get a second chance.

"That's why, I think, Kin is so passionate," said the schoolmate. Like many who fear they could face repercussions for protesting, he would only give a single name, Sam. "He believes that this is the

last time, the last chance for us to fight for what we have."

But while friends used the word "brave" to describe their wounded schoolmate, the police chief defended the officer's use of force as "reasonable and lawful." Police Commissioner Stephen Lo said the officer had feared for his life and made "a split-second" decision to fire a single shot at close range. Video of the shooting showed the protester striking the officer's shooting arm with a metal rod, and that he was part of a group of about a dozen black-clad and masked demonstrators who swarmed the officer and other riot police, some hurling objects.

The shooting \_ the first time a protester is known to have been hit by gunfire \_ was a fearsome escalation in what is already the most serious crisis faced by any post-1997 Hong Kong leader and is severely testing the strength of Beijing's commitments to let the territory be largely its own boss, at least until 2047.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Possible structural issues examined in Taiwan bridge fall

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Investigators are examining possible structural problems surrounding a bridge that collapsed in northeastern Taiwan, killing six people. The official Central News Agency reported Thursday that a 2016 report on bridges in Yilan county had found problems with the expansion joints on the Nanfang'ao bridge that collapsed Tuesday morning. The joints are designed to absorb changes in temperature. CNA cited the report as saying that motorists could sense a difference of levels on either side of the joints. The company responsible for managing the bridge, Taiwan International Ports Corporation, Ltd., earlier said it cleaned the joints and fixed other problems such as rusted steel reinforcements and guardrails in 2017 and 2018. Experts are also looking into the condition of the bridge's steel cables, including the possibility of dangerous levels of corrosion.

#### Duterte flies to Russia for 2nd time to meet 'idol' Putin

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president left for Moscow on Tuesday to meet his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, and press efforts to broaden relations while maintaining robust ties with treaty ally the United States. President Rodrigo Duterte left Manila with his defense, finance and economic secretaries and other key Cabinet officials for the Oct. 1-5 visit to Russia. His first trip in May 2017 was cut short due to a major attack by Islamic State group-linked militants in the southern Philippines. After taking office in

mid-2016, Duterte took steps to mend relations with China which were damaged by territorial conflicts and reach out to Putin, whom he has described as his "idol," while often criticizing U.S. security policies. "While it is true that we value our long-standing partners, we must also be open to engage new ones," Duterte said in a departure speech. "For the longest time, we have placed key nations at the margins of our foreign policy, failing to fully explore the potentials of mutually beneficial cooperation."

#### Taliban send high-level delegation to Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The Taliban announced Wednesday they are sending a high-level delegation to Pakistan's capital as part of a tour that has included Russia, China and Iran in a push to resurrect an Afghanistan peace deal with Washington that seemed imminent just a month ago. Taliban spokesman Suhail Shaheen said Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, a co-founder of the Taliban and head of their political office in Qatar, will lead the 11-member delegation during talks with Pakistani officials in Islamabad. Zalmay Khalilzad, Washington's special peace envoy, is also in the Pakistani capital for "consultations" with the Pakistani leadership, a U.S. official said. He spent the last year negotiating a peace deal with the Taliban, which seemed imminent until Sept. 7 when U.S. President Donald Trump declared the deal "dead." The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media, said Khalilzad is not in Islamabad to resume the peace process.



# World

## Protests escalate in Iraq: 9 dead, hundreds wounded

**BAGHDAD (AP)**—At least seven people were killed and dozens were wounded in clashes that spread across several Iraqi provinces on Wednesday as security forces fired live ammunition and tear gas for the second day to disperse anti-government protesters demanding jobs, improved services and an end to corruption.

The deaths brought the overall number of protesters killed in two days of violence to nine. Protests on Tuesday had left two dead in Baghdad and another in the city of Nasiriyah — and over 200 wounded.

**BAGHDAD (AP)**—Iraqi security forces are using tear gas against a few hundred protesters gathered in a central Baghdad square, hours after a curfew was announced in the Iraqi capital.

The curfew was announced early Thursday following a meeting of Iraq's top leaders to discuss anti-government protests that have engulfed the country.

At least nine people have been killed and hundreds wounded since after security forces first opened fire on the protesters in Tuesday.

Authorities say the curfew is meant to “protect general peace” and protect protesters from “infiltrators” who committed attacks against security forces and public



Anti-government protesters chant slogans during a protest in Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019.

property. It excludes travelers to and from Baghdad airport.

Baghdad streets were largely deserted Thursday morning. In Tahrir Square, hundreds of young protesters were gathered, and police fired tear gas canisters every now and then.

The renewed clashes oc-

curred despite a massive security dragnet mounted by the government in an effort to quash the economically-driven protests.

Hundreds of heavily armed security forces and riot police deployed on Baghdad streets, blocking all intersections leading to a major central square Wednesday to prevent a repeat of Tuesday's protests. Parked

armored personnel carriers and SUVs stood guard and by mid-afternoon, residents said authorities had shut down social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp.

Groups of protesters continued to take to the streets, some of them calling for toppling the government. Thick black smoke hung over the city as

demonstrators set fire to tires and garbage containers. Bursts of heavy gunfire could be heard intermittently. At night, protesters closed the road leading to Baghdad's airport with roadblocks and burning tires, keeping the way into the city open for arrivals.

The confrontations quickly spread to at least seven other provinces in the coun-

try, with an estimated 3,000 demonstrators taking to the streets in the southern city of Basra in a largely peaceful protest on Wednesday evening. Protests and clashes were also reported in Najaf, Nasiriyah, Waset, Diwaniyah and in other places.

The violence was some of the worst between protesters and security forces in Iraq, signaling that the war-weary country could be facing a new round of political instability. Iraq has been caught in the middle of U.S.-Iran tensions in the Middle East, putting an additional strain on the fragile government in Baghdad that hosts thousands of U.S. troops and powerful paramilitary forces allied with Iran.

The U.S. Embassy in Baghdad called for restraint from all sides. “The right to demonstrate peacefully is a fundamental right in all democracies, but there is no place for violence in demonstrations from any side,” it posted on Twitter.

The protests, organized on social media, started in Tahrir Square on Tuesday, initially driven by economy woes. They began peacefully, calling for an end to corruption, improved basic services and more jobs. But they soon turned violent after security forces fought back demonstrators with water cannons, tear gas and live ammunition.

## Boris Johnson: UK is offering Brexit ‘compromise’ to EU

**MANCHESTER, England (AP)**—The U.K. offered the European Union a proposed last-minute Brexit deal on Wednesday that it said represents a realistic compromise for both sides, as British Prime Minister Boris Johnson urged the bloc to hold “rapid negotiations towards a solution” after years of wrangling.

With Britain due to leave the bloc at the end of this month, Johnson said in a letter to European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker that not reaching a deal would be “a failure of statecraft for which we would all be responsible.” He did not mention that the EU and the U.K. did reach a deal in 2018 — only for it to be rejected, three times, by Britain's Parliament.

The EU gave the proposals a guarded welcome and said the two sides would negotiate over the coming days. Juncker said he welcomed Johnson's “determination” to make progress but noted

there were still some “problematic” areas. Finland, which currently holds the EU presidency, said the 27 other member states would “engage actively” with the U.K. proposals, and chief negotiator Michel Barnier said they represented “progress.”

The new proposals focus on maintaining an open border between the U.K.'s Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland — the key sticking point to a Brexit deal. The U.K. proposes to do that by keeping Northern Ireland closely aligned to EU rules for trade in goods, possibly for an extended period.

The proposals, and Johnson's letter, were conciliatory, despite having been billed by Johnson's office as a take-it-or-leave-it “final offer.”

Instead, Johnson used a speech to his Conservative Party to implore the bloc, and Britons, to end more than three years of acrimonious wrangling over the terms of the U.K.'s exit from the EU.

“Let's get Brexit done,” was the repeated refrain to delegates at the conference in Manchester, northwest England.

British voters in 2016 narrowly chose to leave the EU but the country remains deeply divided over how to do it. In his speech, Johnson said people who voted for Brexit “are beginning to feel that they are being taken for fools.” He warned of “grave consequences for trust in our democracy” if Britain did not leave the EU on the scheduled date of Oct. 31.

He said the government was offering “constructive and reasonable proposals” to the EU.

The plan is “a compromise by the U.K. And I hope very much that our friends understand that and compromise in their turn,” Johnson said.

But the plan is likely to face deep skepticism from EU leaders, who will need to be convinced the U.K. has a workable proposal to avoid checks on goods or people crossing the Irish border.

## Khashoggi remembered outside Saudi consulate where he died

**ISTANBUL (AP)**—Washington Post owner Jeff Bezos joined activists and friends of Jamal Khashoggi near Saudi Arabia's Consulate in Istanbul on Wednesday, and demanded justice for the journalist on the first-year anniversary of his horrific death at the hands of Saudi agents.

The memorial began just after 1:14 p.m. (1014 GMT) — the time that the Washington Post columnist walked into the consulate a year ago, to collect documents required for him to marry his Turkish fiancée, who was waiting for him outside. He never walked out.

During the ceremony, activists called for a United Nations-led investigation into the murder and action to ensure that the perpetrators of the killing don't go unpunished.

A sharp-critic of the Saudi Kingdom and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Khashoggi was brutally killed and apparently dismembered by a 15-member Saudi hit squad that flew to Tur-

key. His remains have never been found.

Turkish authorities, who had apparently been monitoring the consulate, recorded and later leaked details concerning the death of Khashoggi.

Several questions linger a year since his killing, including the whereabouts of his body and Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's possible culpability.

Agnes Callamard, a U.N. rapporteur who authored a report into the killing, told the memorial service that the world should insist that “no one, not even a powerful and influential state as Saudi Arabia get away with murder.”

Callamard said “no one should get away with murder no matter who they are or how high their station in life, no matter whether they raised the deadly fist or ordered the deadly blow.”

In her report released earlier this year, Callamard had asserted that Saudi Arabia bore responsibility for the killing

and that Prince Mohammed's possible role should be investigated.

Bezos, who is also the founder of Amazon, made a surprise appearance at the memorial and praised Khashoggi's fiancée, Hatice Cengiz, who paced a street outside the Saudi consulate for hours waiting for him to re-emerge.

“No one should ever have to endure what you did,” Bezos said. “You need to know that you are in our hearts. We are here and you are not alone.”

For her part, Cengiz told attendees: “I want those in power to be held accountable for their action.”

Participants later unveiled a memorial stone for Khashoggi, bearing the Turkish inscription of his name, “Cemal Kasikci.”

Saudi Arabia says it is trying 11 people for the killing, but few details about the case have been released. The trial does not include the crown prince's top adviser at the time of the killing.



# Off The Wall

## Stomp and squish: Pennsylvanians battle 'nightmare' bugs

**KUTZTOWN, Pa. (AP)**—In the Great Spotted Lanternfly War, Pennsylvania's citizen-soldiers are fighting back with fly swatters and vacuums, dish soap and sticky tape. They're stomping and spraying and zapping and bragging about their kills on social media. "DESTROY THEM," a propaganda poster urges. "Die, die, die, spotted lanternfly," a balladeer sings.

And still the invaders come, hordes of them, relentless and seemingly inexhaustible. The lanternflies' rampage has been slowed but not stopped.

The insect—a large, colorful planthopper native to southeast Asia—has emerged as a serious pest since the federal government confirmed its arrival in southeastern Pennsylvania five years ago. It sucks the sap from valuable trees and vines, weakening them. It rains its clear, sticky, sugary waste—euphemistically called "honeydew"—onto pools and decks, driving exasperated homeowners indoors when they're not too busy killing the fluttering buggers.

Lanternflies aren't shy, either. They will fly in your face, land on your shirt and crawl on the back of your neck.

More worrisome, the state agriculture department says



This Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019, photo shows a spotted lanternfly at a vineyard in Kutztown, Pa. AP

the lanternflies threaten \$18 billion worth of Pennsylvania agriculture, including tree fruit, timber, hops and especially grapes. And the bug has expanded its range into New Jersey, Delaware and Virginia, alarming officials in those states and beyond as well as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which is involved in containment and suppression efforts.

Though researchers are looking for ways to eradicate the red-winged interloper, "controlling them on a popula-

tion level is almost impossible at this point," said Heather Leach, an entomologist who does lanternfly outreach at Penn State Extension.

Lori Beatrice can relate. Battalions of bugs have been swarming her back deck in Phoenixville, about 30 miles (48 kilometers) from Philadelphia. She and her husband have killed thousands, but "we're outnumbered," Beatrice said. "It's just gross. It's disgusting. It's like waking up in a nightmare."

The yearslong infestation

poses an existential threat to grapes that supply Pennsylvania's \$4.8 billion wine industry.

Dean Scott, who grows grapes for local wineries around Kutztown, has been spraying insecticide on his vines in an effort to keep the bugs at bay. It works for a few days, but they inevitably return. The carnage is evident in the blackened trunks of diseased grapes vines, and in the thousands of dead insects that litter the vineyard. One of Scott's fellow growers left the busi-

ness after losing 40 acres (16 hectares) of vines.

"It's depressing," said Scott, whose vineyard produces 12 tons (11 metric tons) to 15 tons (14 metric tons) of

grapes each year, and who is counting on it to help support him in retirement. "My fear is that if this continues, we're going to lose the battle here in Pennsylvania."

## San Francisco residents use rocks to block homeless camping

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)**—A group of San Francisco neighbors said they had to do something to make their street safe. Their answer? Some giant rocks.

Fed up with what they see as the city's failure to combat homelessness and rampant drug use, the neighbors had boulders delivered to their sidewalk to block people from pitching tents on their street.

That started a fight that shows the frustration with an unprecedented homelessness crisis in California. Cities are struggling to address the lack of affordable housing and a growing number of homeless encampments that are popping up on city streets, sometimes in neighborhoods.

"Everyone was so desperate that we decided to team up because this was not a tent or two with homeless people," said John, a neighbor who spoke on the condition he only be identified by his first name

because of threats residents have received over the boulders. "These were drug dealers in large tents, and people coming in and out, and people not feeling safe walking to their own home at night."

The boulders went up in an alley off Market Street, one of San Francisco's major thoroughfares. They stopped people from putting up tents for a couple of weeks, until homeless advocates learned about them and rolled some into the street.

The city stepped in because they posed a safety hazard, hoisting the giant rocks back onto the sidewalk. But the activists returned, pushing them onto the street again.

The tug-of-war appears to have ended this week after neighbors asked the city to remove the rocks, saying they are being harassed with calls, emails and people shouting threats when they leave their homes.

### OFFBEAT BRIEFS

#### Thief nets \$4K worth of ornamental fish from New Mexico pond

**SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)**—It's a fishy mystery caught on camera. KOB-TV reports authorities say fish worth thousands of dollars recently were stolen from a Santa Fe, New Mexico, business and the alleged theft was captured on video. Owner Melissa D'Angelico says the thief hit the pond in front of Santa Fe Landscapes and Water Gardens and took 10 of her koi. A video shows a man using a net to remove fish. Koi fish are colorful, ornamental versions of the common carp and can grow up to three feet (90 centimeters). D'Angelico says a thief stole fish at different times over the past few months. She says the fish were worth more than \$4,000. No arrests have been made.

#### Virginia woman praised for saving injured baby squirrel

**PULASKI, Va. (AP)**—Police are praising a Virginia woman who says a squirrel led her down a trail and tugged at her leg to help its injured baby, earning her the nickname "squirrel whisperer." Pulaski police said on

their Facebook page that officers got a call Sept. 20 from a woman who told them a squirrel approached her on a trail, blocked her path and led her to the baby squirrel with an injured leg. Tia Powell told police that when she tried to walk away, the squirrel tugged on her pants leg. That's when she realized a cat was ready to attack the squirrels, so she called police and a friend. The news release says responding officers found the squirrels sitting with the two women, who got them back in their tree.

#### Oh deer! Georgia woman pumping gas kicked in head by deer

**JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)**—A Georgia woman went to fill up her gas tank before work when a deer leaped over her head, kicking her in the process. Lynda Tennent told WJXT-TV she was pumping gas in Brunswick, Georgia, on Wednesday when the incident occurred. Tennent says she thought she was being robbed. The animal's hoof hit when she wasn't looking. She says she stood there for a minute to process what happened. She didn't say whether she suffered any

other injuries. Despite everything, she told the television station she was still in good spirits. Tennent says the deer ran off.

#### Motorists get eyeful as porn plays on electronic billboard

**AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP)**—Motorists traveling through a Detroit suburb were stunned to see a pornographic video playing on an electronic billboard. Auburn Hills police say the video played on the billboard along Interstate 75 in Oakland County for about 30 minutes Saturday night before the images were removed. Many people called 911. Chuck McMahon says he saw the video and wondered if the billboard was advertising for a strip club. Investigators tell WDIV-TV that two people apparently broke into a small building at the site and loaded porn on a laptop that's connected to the billboard. Two men wearing hooded sweatshirts were spotted on security video. Police are asking the public to help identify them. Dr. Justin Kammo also saw the video. He says he immediately assumed that "someone had hacked it."

#### Javelina rescued after stopping traffic on Phoenix freeway

**PHOENIX (AP)**—A baby javelina is recovering after a jaunt on a Phoenix freeway. The Arizona Department of Public Safety says the young javelina was one of two that brought traffic on State Route 51 to a standstill Monday afternoon. DPS officials say several troopers tried to round up the animals, which were on the northbound lanes. Trooper Martin Sotelo managed to wrangle one javelina. The other ran off and eluded capture. The rescued javelina was transported to Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center in Scottsdale for medical treatment. Javelina, which look like wild boar, are native to desert environments.

#### Germany: Hunter helps free deer from swimming pool

**BERLIN (AP)**—Firefighters have freed a deer that got stuck in an empty swimming pool in a German town, with a little help from a hunter. The fire service in Wetter an der Ruhr, in western Germany, said it was alerted to the animal's plight

on Monday. Five firefighters sent to the scene found the deer trying unsuccessfully to climb the steep sides of the pool. Local authorities called in a hunter to help. He grabbed the animal by its hind legs and pushed it upward toward the firefighters. The fire service said in a statement Tuesday that "the animal didn't even thank anyone for its rescue" before it ran off.

#### Dazed and confused deer gets trapped in Italy's resort shop

**ROME (AP)**—A dazed and confused deer has stormed into a clothing store in the fashionable mountain resort of Cortina d'Ampezzo, on the Italian Dolomites, blocking the local shopping street for a few hours before being saved and freed. Local authorities said Tuesday that the deer, estimated to be 4 or 5 years old, entered the shop, specialized in tirolese outfits, while the assistant was away, and got trapped inside among the clothes. Authorities said it was necessary to cordon off Cortina's shopping square to allow local veterinarians to catch the animal, anesthetize it and then bring it back to the wild. Cor-

tina mayor Gianpaolo Ghedina said that "luckily, all ended well. Once the animal was sedated, it was brought back to the woods and then freed."

#### Yuengling, Hershey collaborate on chocolate-infused brew

**POTTSVILLE, Pa. (AP)**—Soon on tap: a new brew featuring Yuengling's nearly 200-year-old porter recipe and Hershey's chocolate. The two Pennsylvania companies are teaming up on a limited-edition beer called Yuengling Hershey's Chocolate Porter. The chocolate-infused brew will be available on tap beginning in mid-October at bars, restaurants and other venues in 13 states from Kentucky to Massachusetts, as well as Washington, D.C. It's the first collaboration for Pottsville-based Yuengling, America's oldest operating brewery. The company says the beer will have "rich chocolate notes" and recommends pairing it with barbecued and smoked meats, cheeses and desserts. The brew was in development for nearly a year. Yuengling expects it to last until February.



# Science & Technology

## UPS gets government approval to become a drone airline

**DALLAS (AP)**—UPS has won government approval to operate a nationwide fleet of drones, which will let the company expand deliveries on hospital campuses and move it one step closer to making deliveries to consumers.

Many regulatory obstacles remain, however, before

UPS—or other operators who are testing drones—can fill the sky over cities and suburbs with drones carrying goods to people's doorsteps.

United Parcel Service Inc. said Tuesday that its drone subsidiary was awarded an airline certificate last week by the Federal Aviation Adminis-



<sup>AP</sup>  
In this June 24, 2019, photo a UPS aircraft taxis to its hangar area after it arrived at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport in Grapevine, Texas.

## Ready student one? Universities launch degrees in esports

**LONDON (AP)**—On their first week in class, a group of students is playing a first-person shooter video game in a sleek new digital studio. It's their introduction to the degree in esports they've all enrolled in.

The group clicking away on their mice are at the University of Staffordshire, one of several U.K. and U.S. schools launching programs aimed at capitalizing on the booming industry's need for skilled professionals.

Ryan Chapman, 18, said his parents were "skeptical at first" about studying esports, or competitive multiplayer videogaming.

"But now they understand how big the industry is growing, the pace it's growing at. They're now really all for it because it's a great industry to start to get into," said Chapman, who was among the students in the lab playing Counter-Strike, one of the most popular esports games.

The University of Staffordshire last year launched its bachelor's and master's esports programs, in which students mainly learn marketing and management skills tailored to the industry. This autumn, it's expanding the program to London while other schools are also debuting esports degree courses,

including Britain's Chichester University, Virginia's Shenandoah University, Becker College in Massachusetts and The Ohio State University. In Asia, where esports has seen strong growth, schools in Singapore and China offer courses.

The global esports market is expected to surge to \$1.1 billion this year, up \$230 million from 2018 on growth in sponsorships, merchandise and ticket sales, according to Newzoo. The research firm expects the global esports audience to grow in 2019 to about 454 million as fans tune in on livestreaming platforms such as Twitch and Microsoft's Mixer.

Esports tournaments have become a cultural phenomenon and now rival traditional sports events in size and scale. Big competitions are held in arenas where thousands of fans watch big-name professional video gamers compete for lucrative prize pools.

Esports leagues have franchises in North America, Europe and Asia. The biggest names, such as Fortnite superstar Tyler "Ninja" Blevins, can earn millions in prize money and livestreaming deals. Esports are even set to be a medal event at the Southeast Asian Games in the Philippines in November.

tration, the first U.S. company to get such a broad approval.

Even before getting that designation, UPS Flight Forward, as the subsidiary is called, has operated more than 1,000 flights at WakeMed's hospital campus in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The designation removes limits on the size of the company's potential drone operation. Flight Forward can fly an unlimited number of drones, a key step toward expanding the operation. It can also fly drones at night—the company plans to do that after installing

the necessary colored warning lights on each machine.

However, UPS still faces severe restrictions before it can run a large commercial operation with drones.

For example, drones won't be allowed to fly beyond the sight of the operator without

an FAA exemption for each route. Also, each flight will need a separate operator. Scott Price, the company's chief strategy officer, said UPS will eventually apply for FAA permission to have a single operator fly multiple drones at the same time.

The airline certificate lets UPS fly drones carrying more than 55 pounds, "but we're not comfortable we have the hardware for that yet," Price said in an interview.

Operations will be limited to campus-like settings because FAA has not yet written regulations to allow commercial drone flights over populated areas. Price said UPS is eyeing "hundreds" of campuses in the U.S., including hospitals, colleges and office complexes.

## Microsoft returns with smartphone after high-profile flops

**NEW YORK (AP)**—After high-profile flops, Microsoft is getting back into smartphones with a dual-screen Android device that won't be out for another year.

Microsoft unveiled the Surface Duo as part of a new lineup of Surface computers. It marks a reversal for a company that abandoned smartphones following lackluster demand for its own operating system and an ill-fated purchase of smartphone maker Nokia.

"I believe the third time's a charm for Microsoft and smartphones," said Patrick Moorhead, an analyst with Moor Insights & Strategy.

He said Microsoft has had a

good track record with Surface devices, while the Duo's novel design offers something new at a time when phone innovation has been slowing down.

Microsoft says the Duo makes phone calls, though it stopped short of calling it a phone. Though it runs Android, the back of the prototype has a Surface logo that resembles Windows. The company prefers calling the Duo just another Surface device.

Microsoft also announced a dual-screen Surface Neo tablet, which also won't be out until late next year. In a blog post, Microsoft said other manufacturers including Asus, Dell, HP and Lenovo will also make dual-screen and

foldable devices using a variant of Windows called 10X.

Both Surface devices feature two screens connected with a hinge and can fold like laptops. They can display separate apps side by side or a single app stretched across both screens. They are technologically less ambitious than foldable phones from Samsung and others, whose screens actually bend as the devices close. Some of those folding phones have experienced technical difficulties.

The Duo is about the size of a large smartphone when folded, with two 5.6-inch displays, while the folded Neo is similar in size to a small tablet such as the iPad Mini or an Amazon Fire.

The devices will initially be available only for developers who create and test apps. Microsoft plans to start selling them during the 2020 holiday season. The company offered no details on price.

Available sooner are \$249 Surface Earbuds, as Microsoft joins Apple, Amazon, Google and others in making wireless listening devices.

At a product event Wednesday in New York, Microsoft also unveiled two new Surface Pro tablets. The Surface Pro X will have a 13-inch screen, rather than the 12-inch ones on the new Pro 7 and older models. But the X will be about the same size overall, thanks to a smaller bezel.

## TECH Q&A: Laptop won't stop opening Edge browser

**Q: I have a new laptop that runs Windows 10. But I'm frustrated that every time I turn on the PC, it automatically opens the Microsoft Edge browser. That's not what I want the laptop to do, and I prefer to use other browsers anyway. I've tried uninstalling Edge and turning it off in the start menu, but nothing works. What can I do?**

**A:** Edge can't be uninstalled easily because it's part of Windows 10. While there are ways to disable or remove Edge (see [tinyurl.com/y4fvoy86](https://tinyurl.com/y4fvoy86)), they may damage the operating system. A better solution is to make Edge less intrusive.

First, make sure the browser

you want to use is set as the "default browser." Go to the settings app, click "apps" and on the left click "default apps." On the right, click on whatever browser is listed, and from the resulting list pick the browser you want.

Then change the "welcome screen" setting. Edge is by default set to show you feature highlights whenever your PC is upgraded to a newer version of Windows 10. Open the settings app, click on "system," then click on "notifications and actions." At the right side of the screen, uncheck the box beside "Show me the Windows welcome experience after updates and occasion-

ally when I sign in to highlight what's new and suggested."

You should also turn off another default feature that allows Edge to run in the background of your PC, constantly using up some of your PC's computer chip memory. Open the settings app and click on "privacy." In the column on the left, click "background apps." On the right, find Edge in the list of apps that run in the background. Turn the switch beside it to "off."

**Q: I bought a new Windows 10 PC two years ago and paid \$70 for an annual subscription to use Microsoft Word. Now I'm giving away the PC, and want to cancel the sub-**

**scription. How can I do that?**

**A:** It appears that you bought a \$70-a-year subscription to Office 365, the online version of Microsoft Office that includes Word and other programs. Here's how you can unsubscribe:

■ Turn off recurring billing by going to Microsoft's "services and subscriptions" website (see [tinyurl.com/y53la7qt](https://tinyurl.com/y53la7qt)). If asked, sign in with the Microsoft account e-mail and password you used when signing up for Office 365. On the resulting Web page, click on the listing for your Office 365 subscription. Then click either "turn off recurring billing" or "cancel." Follow any instructions.

**By STEVE ALEXANDER**

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If you don't see "turn off recurring billing" or "cancel," and instead see "paid with" and "none," you don't have to do anything. Your account will not automatically renew. In addition, if you see "turn on recurring billing," you don't have to do anything; recurring billing is already turned off.

■ If you aren't able to unsubscribe that way, contact Mi-

crosoft online (see [tinyurl.com/y3192hyg](https://tinyurl.com/y3192hyg)). Briefly describe your problem in the message box, click the "get help" button and wait for a response.

■ If you can't stop Office 365 from renewing, wait for your credit card bill to arrive. Before paying the bill, tell the card company you want to dispute the Microsoft subscription charge.



# Life & Style

## Placido Domingo resigns as general director of LA Opera

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Opera star Placido Domingo resigned Wednesday as general director of the Los Angeles Opera and withdrew from all future performances, following multiple allegations from women who say the legendary tenor sexually harassed them there and at opera companies around the country over a period of decades.

Domingo's departure from

LA Opera raises questions about his future career in the United States, where he has been removed or has stepped down from all scheduled appearances since the allegations were first reported by The Associated Press.

In two reports published Aug. 13 and Sept. 5, the AP spoke to more than 20 women who accused Domingo of sexual harassment or other in-

appropriate, sexually charged conduct. Many said Domingo tried to pressure them into sexual relationships and sometimes punished them professionally if they rejected him. All said they feared reporting him because of his power to make or break their careers, and that his behavior was an open secret in the opera world.

The accusers' stories laid

out strikingly similar patterns of behavior that included Domingo persistently contacting them — often calling them repeatedly at home, late at night — expressing interest in their careers and urging them to meet him privately at his apartment or a hotel room, or for a drink or meal, under the guise of offering professional advice. Several women said they took extreme measures

to avoid Domingo, hiding from him in dressing rooms, not answering their phones or asking male colleagues to walk them to their cars so they wouldn't be alone.

In a statement Wednesday, Domingo said that his ability to continue at LA Opera was "compromised" by the accusations against him.

"I hold Los Angeles Opera very dear to my heart and count my work to create and build it as among my most important legacies," said Domingo, 78, who helped found the company in the 1980s and is credited with raising its international profile.

"However, recent accusations that have been made against me in the press have created an atmosphere in which my ability to serve this company that I so love has



Domingo

been compromised," Domingo said, adding that he would continue to work to clear his name but decided "it is in the best interests of LA Opera for me to resign as general director and withdraw

from my future scheduled performances at this time."

Domingo had been scheduled to headline six performances of "Roberto Devereux" in February and March.

The resignation comes a week after the Metropolitan Opera's bombshell announcement that Domingo would not be taking the stage in the season premiere of "Macbeth" and possibly ever again. Three other companies — the Philadelphia Orchestra, San Francisco Opera and Dallas Opera — had already removed Domingo from upcoming performances in the wake of the AP stories.

## 'Making a Murderer' subject seeks pardon, commutation

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—A man convicted of rape and murder when he was a teenager whose story was documented in the 2015 Netflix series "Making a Murderer" asked Wisconsin's governor for a pardon or commutation of his life prison sentence on Wednesday.

The request from Brendan Dassey came as his advocates launched yet another attempt to free him, this time outside the court system. His latest appeal was not considered by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Dassey's chances of getting a pardon from Gov. Tony Evers appear remote. Evers' rules for a pardon forbid anyone still serving their prison sentence from being considered and he's also not issuing any commutations.

Dassey, now 29, was 16 years old when he confessed to Wisconsin authorities that he had joined his uncle, Steve Avery, in the 2005 rape and murder of photographer Teresa Halbach, before burning her body in a bonfire.

"I am writing to ask for a

pardon because I am innocent and want to go home," Dassey said in a handwritten note to Evers that accompanied his application. Dassey congratulated Evers, a Democrat who took office in January, on becoming governor. Dassey also listed things he enjoys including Pokemon and hamburgers and drew a pair of hearts with the word "hugs" in one and "love" in the other.

Evers re-started Wisconsin's pardons board this year after his Republican predecessor Scott Walker stopped

it, but to be considered the applicants must have completed their prison sentences. Anyone not meeting that criteria will be rejected as ineligible with no review, the application form says.

Evers has no public rules for commuting a prison sentence, but his spokeswoman Melissa Baldauff said in June that he is not considering doing that "at this time." Commutations in Wisconsin are rare. No governor since Tommy Thompson, who left office in 2001, has issued one.

## Prince Harry lashes out at UK press for treatment of Meghan

LONDON (AP)—Prince Harry has lashed out at the British media for its treatment of his wife, Meghan, accusing it of hounding her the way it did his mother, Princess Diana, who died in a 1997 car crash while trying to elude paparazzi.

"My deepest fear is history repeating itself. I've seen what happens when someone I love is commoditized to the point that they are no longer treated or seen as a real person. I lost my mother and now I watch my wife falling victim to the same powerful forces," Harry said.

His rebuke of the press, and a lawsuit filed by Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, against the Mail on Sunday newspaper for publishing in February a letter she had written to her estranged father is overshadowing the final day of his family's tour to southern Africa.

Harry and Meghan—with infant son Archie in tow—are scheduled to fly home Wednesday evening from South Africa following their day 10-day trip.

The ginger-haired, bearded prince—often seeming so light of mood in public—said he could no longer be a "silent witness to her private suffering."

Releasing what appears to be years of pent-up anger at the press, he said some news-



Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex visit a Youth Employment Services Hub in Makhulong, Tembisa, a township near Johannesburg, South Africa, Wednesday Oct. 2, 2019. The royal couple are on the last of their 10 day Africa tour.

papers have repeatedly "vilified" Meghan and published "lie after lie" about her.

Harry and his older brother Prince William have long had a strained relationship with the press. They grew up in the spotlight and were young boys when their parents' acrimonious divorce received wall-to-wall coverage.

In the civil lawsuit, Meghan's lawyers accused the newspaper of copyright infringement, misuse of public

information and violation of data protection laws.

The Mail on Sunday said it stands by its story and will fight the case in court.

Harry and Meghan enjoyed almost worshipful attention from the press when they married in May, 2018, but the tone has changed in recent months. The couple has been criticized for using taxpayer money to renovate their home and for traveling on a private jet while calling for more action on cli-

mate change.

They did receive generally positive coverage on their trip to southern Africa, which also served as a debut in global diplomacy for four-month-old Archie.

Archie's sole public showing was also a rare public appearance by ailing Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who greeted the baby with a gleeful smile and a gentle kiss on the forehead.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Andre "Dr. Dre" Young and Jimmy Iovine want a new high-tech building bearing their names at the University of Southern California to become a place where young creatives can understand marrying the concepts of art, technology and business.

The music business partners along with USC's head school officials unveiled the Iovine and Young Hall on the campus during a dedication ceremony on Wednesday afternoon. The school's marching band commemorated the moment by playing its fight song "Fight On" while confetti exploded into the air after the ribbon cutting.

"What this school does is as much as what it doesn't do," said Iovine, a music industry entrepreneur who is known as the co-founder of Interscope Records.

"What it doesn't do is cut off that potential in your freshman year and silos you into something," Iovine continued. "To silo an undergraduate is a mistake as far as I'm concerned."

Dr. Dre is best known as a producer, rapper and co-owner of Death Row Records. He later started his own record label, Aftermath Entertainment.

The building was named after Iovine and Dr. Dre who donated a combined \$70 million in 2013 to create the Jimmy Iovine and Andre Young Academy for Innovation. The academy provides a special

four-year program for undergraduates whose interests are spanned in several fields from marketing, computer science, visual design and other arts.

Iovine believes all of those fields can coincide with each other in their building, which USC President Carol L. Folt called "futuristic." The hall will provide a learning space featuring 3-D printers, electronic labs, a podcast studio, an alumni incubator space, and a motion capture and audio studio.

"When a design artist meets a computer science major, they don't understand each other," Iovine said. "The language gets muddled. They don't understand the why of what each other does. This school keeps that pumping. When you graduate from this academy, you retain and enhance what you had as a kid. That's the joy of understanding both disciplines."

Erica Muhl, the dean of the USC Iovine and Young Academy, said the university is evolving with the times.

"The world is becoming more complex," Muhl said. "That means problems are becoming more complex. This school aims to find and nurture those thinkers that can address these problems from multiple perspectives with a broad array of tools and methodologies. This allows them to cross those disciplines as native, rather than having to think across them."



# Judge denies bail for R. Kelly in NYC sex-abuse case

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A federal judge in New York City has denied bail to R&B singer R. Kelly in his sex-abuse case.

Kelly didn't attend the hearing on Wednesday on a defense motion asking for his release on bond. U.S. District Judge Ann Donnelly agreed

with prosecutors that he's a flight risk and a potential threat to witnesses.

He remains detained in Chicago, where he faces related charges. A judge there hasn't ruled on a request to reconsider releasing him on bond.

Kelly, whose full name is

Robert Kelly, is accused of using his fame to recruit young

women and girls for illegal sexual activity.

The New York judge set a trial date of May 18. That

would follow a trial in Chicago scheduled to begin on April 27.

## Singer Lou Gramm will miss 4 Foreigner shows due to illness

**ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)**—Lou Gramm, the original singer for the classic rock band Foreigner, will miss four upcoming concerts due to illness.

He and other original members of the band were set to perform with the current lineup in a show called "Foreigner Double Vision: Then

And Now."

Other original members will perform as scheduled at the Mohegan Sun Casino in Uncasville, Connecticut, on Wednesday, the Hard Rock casino Atlantic City on Friday, the Black Oak Casino in Tuolumne, California, on Oct. 12, and the Ilani Casino Resort in Ridgefield, Wash-

ington, on Oct. 13.

Gramm's publicist says the 69-year-old was hospitalized in Rochester, New York, last week with a severe respiratory infection, dehydration and fatigue.

In a follow-up doctor visit Wednesday morning, Gramm was deemed unable to perform for the four upcoming shows.

"My doctor insists if I pushed myself to perform, I would be in big trouble," Gramm said in a statement issued Wednesday. "So, doctor's orders, I ride the bench. Rock on!"

The band is known for a long string of classic rock hits including "Cold As Ice," "Feels Like The First Time," and "Hot Blooded."

## Jim Carrey novel set next May

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Jim Carrey has set his wild sights on the literary world.

The actor has written a novel called "Memoirs and Misinformation," Alfred A. Knopf announced Wednesday. Along with co-author Dana Vachon, Carrey will take on celebrity, acting, romance and some other subjects he's familiar with. The publisher is calling the book a "fearless and semi-autobiographical deconstruction of



Carrey

persona."

"Memoirs and Misinformation" is scheduled for publication next May. Carrey, who plans a promotional tour, is offering a semi-disclaimer: "None of this is real and all of it is true."

Carrey, 57, is known for films such as "Dumb and Dumber" and "Man on the Moon." He's not the first actor in recent years to turn to fiction writing. Others include Tom Hanks, Sean Penn and Ethan Hawke.

## 3 charged with providing drugs that killed rapper Mac Miller

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Three men arrested during the investigation into rapper Mac Miller's deadly overdose last year have now been charged with providing the drugs that killed him, U.S. prosecutors said Wednesday.

A grand jury indictment that was unsealed in Los Angeles accuses the men of conspiring and distributing cocaine and oxycodone pills laced with fentanyl that caused Miller's death in September 2018.

Cameron Pettit, 28, of West Hollywood, California; Stephen Walter, 46, of Los Angeles; and Ryan Reavis, 36, of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, were previously charged with drug-related offenses. Wednesday's charges add the allegation that their drugs led to Miller's death.

Miller, 26, died of an accidental overdose of the powerful opioid fentanyl, along with cocaine and alcohol. Fentanyl has contributed to an epidemic of opioid abuse in the U.S. that has claimed thousands of lives, including those of other musicians, such as Prince.

The men face a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years in federal prison and the po-

tential for life without parole if convicted of either of the charges related to Miller's death.

All have been arrested in recent weeks and remain in custody, and none has entered a plea.

Attorneys for Pettit and Walter declined comment. It's unclear whether Reavis has a lawyer.

Pettit and Walter, who was also charged with being a

felon in possession of ammunition, were scheduled to be arraigned on the new charges on Oct. 10. Reavis, who was arrested last week in Arizona, does not have an arraignment date set yet.

The indictment alleges the men continued to distribute drugs through August 2019.

Miller's beats and rhymes, with their frank expressions of drug use and depression, made him a beloved and respected

figure among fans, including some of the biggest names in hip-hop.

The Pittsburgh native, whose real name was Malcolm James Myers McCormick, was in a two-year relationship with Ariana Grande that ended earlier in 2018. After his death, the pop star posted a loving video of him on her Instagram page and released a song, "Thank U Next," that affectionately mentioned him.



In this July 13, 2013, file photo, rapper Mac Miller performs on his Space Migration Tour in Philadelphia. AP

## "Barefoot Contessa" star Ina Garten is writing her memoir

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Celadon Books announced Wednesday that million-selling chef Ina Garten is working on a memoir, not yet titled. It's tentatively scheduled for 2023.



Garten

spire readers to find their own unique story."

Garten, 71, was a budget analyst for the federal government before leaving in the late 1970s and purchasing a specialty

food store called The Barefoot Contessa. Her first book, "The Barefoot Contessa Cookbook," came out in 1999. All of her cookbooks have been released by Clarkson Potter, which has Garten cookbooks scheduled for 2020 and 2023.

Garten, longtime host of the Food Network's "Barefoot Contessa," has written such bestsellers as "Barefoot Contessa Parties!" and "Barefoot in Paris." A self-taught cook inspired in part by Julia Child, Garten said in a statement that she hoped her book would "in-

## Daughter remains withdrawn after coming out to parents

**DEAR ABBY:** Our college-age daughter has been withdrawn and depressed for some time. During a recent visit, after asking her several times what was wrong, encouraging her to continue counseling and expressing general concern for her, I finally asked her (again) if she was gay. She broke down and said she was.

She seems conflicted by it, relieved we didn't disown her (she has friends whose parents dropped them), but she still seems very distant. I thought once the burden of coming out was off her shoulders she would be happier, but she barely spoke to us the last day she was here. We both told her we love her, hugged her and, although shocked by her revelation, we are trying to come to terms with her being gay.

We are not perfect but feel we are doing all we can. She still seems depressed and withdrawn. What can we do to help her? I am more upset about her shutting us out than her being gay. I have been in tears thinking our daughter dropped us and doesn't want us around. She doesn't want the rest of the family to know yet. This is confusing for us, too. Help!

HURTING FOR OUR DAUGHTER

**DEAR HURTING:** Because someone comes out to a parent does not mean that all the person's problems magically disappear. Your daughter may suffer from chronic depression

that has nothing to do with her sexual orientation. That you have encouraged her to continue with counseling is appropriate. Badgering her to come out to you may have been less so.

Your daughter will have to find her own way in the journey to explore and accept who she is. Please allow her the space to do that without obsessing over the thought that she has "dropped" you. And do NOT inform the family about what she told you! Respect her privacy. She should have the right to disclose the information in her own time if she chooses.

**DEAR ABBY:** My daughter has been married just over a year and has recently been blessed with a beautiful baby girl. They also share full custody of her husband's 6-year-old daughter.

Both work full time. I'm retired and have offered my help for day care and transportation to school for the older child on certain days. My son-in-law's mother has agreed to take the other two days that are needed for care. She doesn't work either, and cares for another son's child.

The issue is, she charges for the care she gives her grandchildren. I'm not comfortable with this arrangement. Am I wrong to be angry and insist that I assume full-time responsibility for the care of my grandchildren? My daughter doesn't want to burden me. I'm fully committed to shouldering these responsibilities and would love every minute of it. However, I have serious

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

concerns that the mother-in-law will resent me and my daughter if I demand to take on full-time care.

FREE-OF-CHARGE GRANDMA

**DEAR FREE-OF-CHARGE GRANDMA:** If the other grandma needs the money she is being given for child care, you're darn tootin' she's going to resent you for undercutting her. Make your proposal to your daughter, but the final decision about child care rests with her and her husband.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



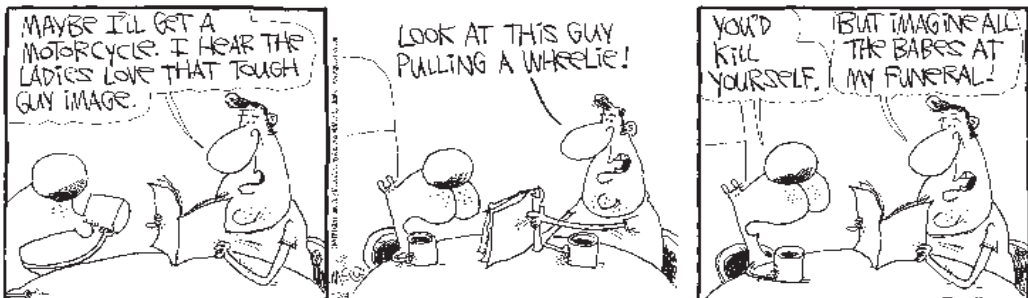
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Short 'do  
4 Arm bone  
8 Shirt protectors  
12 Consumed  
13 Lunch hour  
14 Actor's part  
15 Burden (with)  
17 Cameo stone  
18 City subways  
19 Olympics chant  
21 French article  
22 Topical antiseptic  
26 Maxim  
29 "Incidentally," in a text  
30 Head of st.  
31 Privation  
32 Sob  
33 Morse —  
34 Six, in Sicily  
35 Large snake  
36 Stable mothers  
37 Speaker  
39 Badly lit

**DOWN**

40 Possess  
41 Big name in flatware  
45 Prosperous period  
48 File transfer  
50 Pre-diploma hurdle  
51 Guesser's words  
52 Part of TNT  
53 Whig rival  
54 Mushroomed  
55 Raggedy doll  
1 Lip soother  
2 Okla-homa tribe  
3 Tempo  
4 De-stroyed  
5 Unfettered  
6 At once  
7 Retirement income source  
8 Wide  
9 Charged bit  
10 Journalist  
11 Gender  
16 Medications  
20 Plant seeds  
23 "Young Frankenstein" role  
24 Protuberance  
25 Prior nights  
26 Too  
27 Active person  
28 Pakistan's continent  
29 Bikini half  
32 Deep-fried frank  
33 Caravan beast  
35 Fiddle stick  
36 Small fish  
38 Rock opera by The Who  
39 Use a divining rod  
42 Greek vowel  
43 "Phooey!"  
44 Tennis score  
45 Wager  
46 Tic-tac-toe loser  
47 Rowing need  
49 Bobby of hockey

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 10-4**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Alicia Silverstone, 43; Liev Schreiber, 52; Christoph Waltz, 63; Susan Sarandon, 73.

**Happy Birthday:** Look over your current situation and consider your dreams, and you'll come up with the right balance to help you reach your objectives this year. Use your charm to get others on board with your plans, and put changes in place that will encourage you to prepare mentally, physically and financially to reach your destination. Romance is encouraged. Your numbers are 5, 16, 22, 26, 33, 38, 49.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Take a moment to research what's happening around you before you make a decision. Refuse to let your emotions or your temper take over. The best way to advance is through observation and choosing your words carefully.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Trust in what you know, and let your performance speak for you. You'll come up with exciting new ways to use your skills to grow with the changing economic landscape. Your ability to morph into new dimensions will lead to greater success.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Be honest about what you have to offer and what you are willing to spend. A joint venture will test your patience. Someone is likely to tell you one thing and mean another. Get what you want in writing. Celebrate with someone you love.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Stick to what and who you know. Don't expect everyone to agree with you or to stand by

and let you take over. Be flexible, and let others have a say. Getting along will be required if you want to be successful.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Sign up for something that will expand your mind and inspire you to travel down a new path or go on an adventure. Playing with children, socializing and romance are encouraged and should become your priority as the day progresses.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Put a limit on spending. If someone is asking for too much, counter with what you can afford. Your negotiating skills will help you get what you want. A day trip or conversation will lead to helpful information.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Be open to change as long as it's within budget. Getting along with friends, relatives and lovers will encourage you to join forces, lower overhead and get things done collectively. A reunion will be informative and will promote new beginnings.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Reconnecting with someone from your past can cause problems with someone who has been there for you all along. Don't forget what happened, and consider the type of influence reuniting will have on you emotionally, financially or legally.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Be a leader, not a follower. Trust your judgment, not what someone else tells you. Take ownership of what you do, and pursue something that will help you get ahead. Good things are within reach; don't let anyone steal your thunder.

**EUGENIA LAST**  
THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY  
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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Emotions should not be allowed to take over. A joint venture is likely to raise concerns as well as your temper. Use your intelligence, go through the proper channels and stick to the truth. Positive change begins with you.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Put more into what you want, and you will reap the rewards. Don't let what others do deter you when it should fuel the fire and pump you up to pursue your goal. A change is overdue, but it must be executed properly.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You can put everything in its place and turn your ideas into something tangible. A good deal will not only benefit you, it will change the lives of the people you are trying to help. Speak up, and make a difference.

**Birthday Baby:** You are playful, charismatic and adventuresome. You are emotional and compassionate.

Visit [Eugenialast.com](http://Eugenialast.com), or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

3 7 6 4 8 5

5 7

2 8 3 6

7 4 5 1

9 2

3 7 2 5

4 3

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

9 1 3 7 4 8 2 5 6  
2 5 8 6 3 9 4 7 1  
4 7 6 5 1 2 8 3 9  
8 4 1 2 6 7 3 9 5  
5 6 2 9 8 3 1 4 7  
3 9 7 1 5 4 6 8 2  
6 8 5 3 7 1 9 2 4  
1 2 4 8 9 5 7 6 3  
7 3 9 4 2 6 5 1 8

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 10/04  
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WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ACTIVE VOLCANOES Solution: 13 letters

I Y A T E C T O N I C E E M S  
S N E N O O U A N D J T R I E  
C T D L T R R A E O U U I T G  
A C S O L E C T E N C A F S A  
L A C I N O C I R U W E U V S  
D L T A G E W E F A A A A E A  
I D L L J O S S H I E L D N M  
N E T E A T L I T T C H I T I  
G R M O U N T O A O I A S K J  
C A R B O N T L E Y N E P D A  
R M L R E Y P I A G D E E U R  
A A T E L P R G C I E B E S U  
T G A P R O N E L C R U S T K  
E M A U N A N S I I S D I C A  
R A L S S S S S S S F L O O D S

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Acid, Ages, Arenal, Atlantic, Caldera, Carbon, Cinders, Conical, Core, Crater, Crust, Debris, Dust, Ejected, Erta, Etna, Fiery, Fire, Floods, Fuji, Galeras, Geologists, Hawaii, Indonesia, Kilauea, Magma, Mauna, Mount, Ocean, Pacific, Plateaus, Poas, Sakurajima, Sangay, Scalding, Shield, Slides, Super, Taal, Tectonic, Unrest, Vent, Yellowstone  
Yesterday's Answer: Enamel  
Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand. Purchase online at [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com) or call 1-800-642-6483.

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



CLASSIFIED ADS

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**  
**Clinical Embryologist**  
Masters deg in Molecular Biology (may be foreign equivalent). Perform all laboratory procedures associated with diagnostic & therapeutic treatment svcs including semen analysis, sperm preparation, oocyte & embryo handling, prep & cryopreservation for fertility clinic located in Saipan, CNMI. Perform lab audits & analysis of lab protocols & results. Send resume to Pacific Fertility Institute, Inc., PMB 416 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
FIFTEEN (15) **Molding & Casting Worker** \$7.63 per hour, plus 1.5 OT Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm  
  
DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:  
Perform duties such as mixing materials, assembling mold parts, filling molds, and stacking molds to mold and cast products and working with concrete, wood and steel to build productions molds/forms.  
  
DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:  
At least 1 year experience is required.  
  
All interested applicants can submit resume at [usafanter.operations@gmail.com](mailto:usafanter.operations@gmail.com) or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – [marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net)  
  
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WINSOCK POWER, LLC  
1 Maintenance & Repair Workers, General  
\$8.33 per hr.  
  
Interested applicants, pls call 234-6001 [jamesthomas67@hotmail.com](mailto:jamesthomas67@hotmail.com)

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
ONE (1) **Landscaping & Groundskeeping Worker** \$7.51 per hour, plus 1.5 OT Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 5:00 pm  
  
DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:  
Landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Performs variety of tasks including sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and other related duties.  
  
DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:  
At least 3 months experience is required.  
  
All interested applicants can submit resume at [usafanter.operations@gmail.com](mailto:usafanter.operations@gmail.com) or at our office address PMB 1372 Box 10003 Bayogo Lane, Gualo Rai or contact us at (670)234-5828 from 8:00 am to 5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. For more information the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI Labor web site – [marianaslabor.net](http://marianaslabor.net)  
  
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**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 06-2019**  
Opening date: September 30, 2019 Closing date: October 18, 2019  
  
Positions: (1) Electrician (Saipan)  
(1) ARFF General Maintenance-I (Saipan)  
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)  
(1) Secretary/Tariff Technician-I (Rota)  
  
Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, October 18, 2019**.  
  
Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at [lorna.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp](mailto:lorna.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp) or [hrrspecialist@cpa.gov.mp](mailto:hrrspecialist@cpa.gov.mp) or by phone at (670)237-6500.  
  
CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.  
  
CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

**JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**ONE (1) TRANSMITTER SUPERVISOR**  
  
**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Establish guidance for electronics system maintenance and operations. Uses advanced knowledge to analyze system failures and other unusual system occurrences to isolate the source of the problem and determine failure causes and recommends procedures for eliminating or reducing future failures. Evaluates action on requirements and specifications for communications equipment systems and networks. Provides overall technical advisory as well as assistance in the repair of high-power transmission systems. Oversee the management of IT communications programs and systems. Responsible for all functional areas assigned to Saipan and Tinian. Reviews maintenance and operations records, forwards completed documentation to the Tinian Site Manager. Maintains maintenance records for each transmitter and schedules routine planned maintenance. Develops and maintains transmitter plant Maintenance Plan for optimum performance and efficiency of the transmitter plant mission. Prepares sections 1.0, 2.0, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.0, 9.0 of the Monthly operations report; sections 1.01, 1.02, 1.03, 1.04, 2.01, 2.02, 3.00, 4.00, 5.01, 5.02, and 6.02 of the Quarterly report; annual budget and quarterly financial plans to support the smooth operation and maintenance of all high power transmitters and ancillary equipment; revising and writing new station SOPs and SMPs as required. Enforces safety regulations, establishes “safe” maintenance procedures and has full responsibility for tool and test equipment control. Oversea and direct maintenance activities for the Building and Grounds Department. May be called upon to act as the Site Manager in the absence of the incumbent.  
  
**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Associates Degree in Engineering or Engineering Technology; or completion of formal resident trade school or apprentice program in electronics; or completion of a U.S. Military school in electronic communications maintenance, equipment or systems; &
- Minimum of seven (7) years specialized experience.

  
**Interested individuals please send your resume with a list of references, photocopy of a valid photo identification card & updated police clearance to:**  
  
Paul B. Gordon, Program Manager  
Rome Research Corporation  
IBB Site Robert E. Kamosa Transmitting Station  
Northfield, Tinian, MP 96950  
Contact no. 670-234-6515  
E-mail: [paulbgordon@yahoo.com](mailto:paulbgordon@yahoo.com)  
  
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RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune’s Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as \$15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

<b>ADS</b>	
• 3-Liner	<b>\$15</b>
• 5-Liner	<b>\$24</b>

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

**WHATZIT?**  
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.  
  
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# Rays beat Athletics in AL wild-card game



OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—

When he got to second base, Yandy Diaz stole a glance back toward the dugout and saw all his teammates going crazy. He gleefully kept running.

Out for two months, no matter.

Diaz slugged baseball's lowest spender into a playoff matchup with mighty Houston, Charlie Morton silenced the powerful Athletics on the mound, and the Tampa Bay Rays beat Oakland at its own game with a 5-1 win in the AL wild-card round Wednesday night.

After playing only one game since late July because of a foot injury, Diaz hit a leadoff homer and went deep again in the third inning.

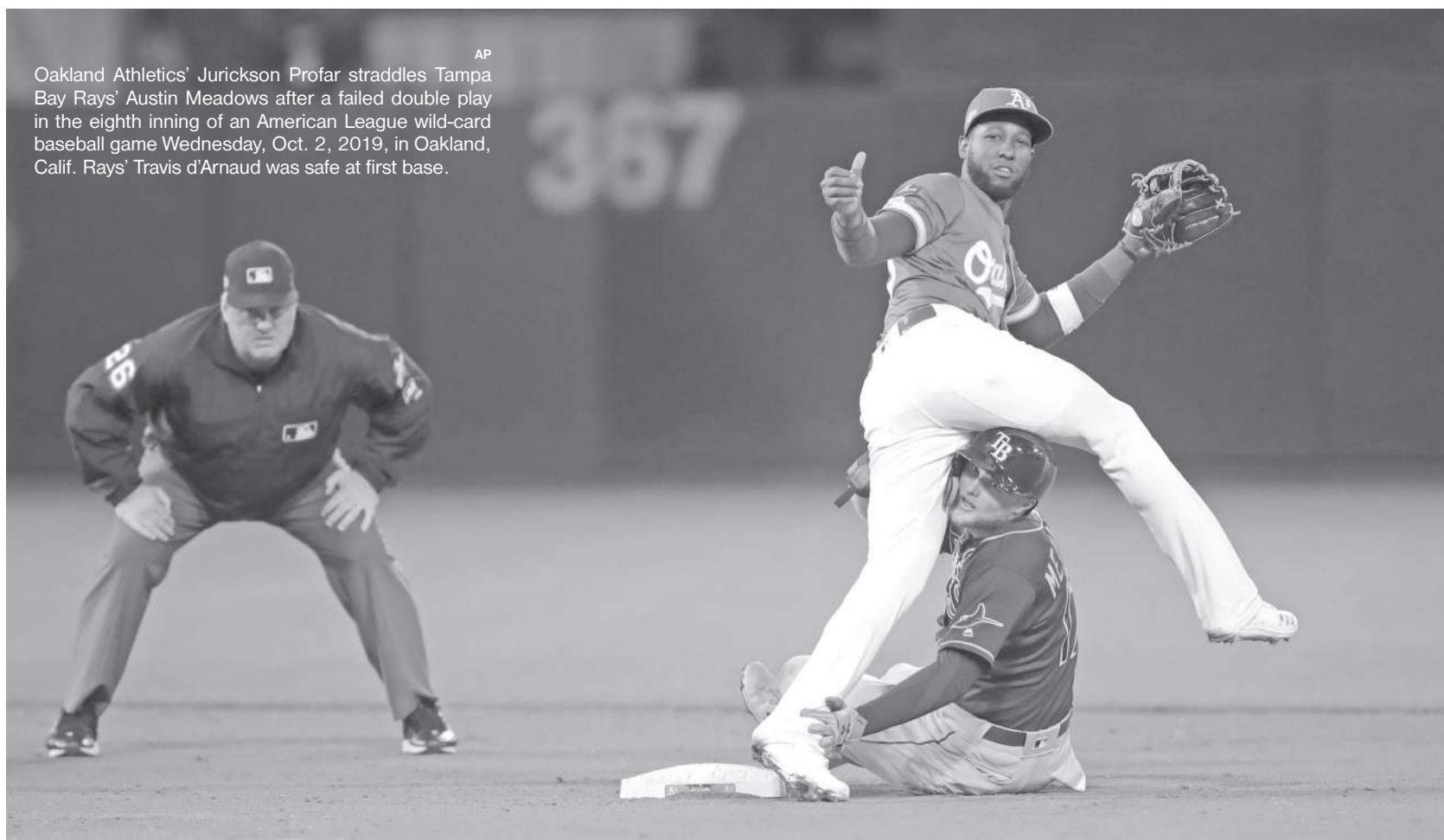
"When I looked to the bench and saw the guys super excited, it pumped me up to go around the bases," Diaz said through a translator. "I thought we had to carry that momentum throughout the game."

Avisail Garcia hit a two-run drive in the second, and Morton had all the support he needed as Tampa Bay advanced to face the AL West champion Astros in a best-of-five Division Series.

Game 1 is Friday at Houston, which piled up a major league-best 107 wins this season.

"We have a tough road ahead of us, Houston's a great team, but we played them well this year. It's going to be a dogfight," Tommy Pham said.

Pham homered in the fifth



Oakland Athletics' Jurickson Profar straddles Tampa Bay Rays' Austin Meadows after a failed double play in the eighth inning of an American League wild-card baseball game Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019, in Oakland, Calif. Rays' Travis d'Arnaud was safe at first base.

for the 96-win Rays, who had the smallest payroll in the majors at \$66.4 million. And in a playoff meeting between creative, small-budget teams that make the most of limited resources, it was Tampa Bay that came out on top.

The Rays were unfazed by a towel-swirling Oakland crowd of 54,005 that established a wild-card record, having recently played at Dodger Stadium and on the road against the Yankees and Red Sox during the season's final two weeks.

"I really feed off the energy of this situation. I that helped us," Morton said. "It helped us to come in here and be in a high-pressure situation. The stadium was pretty rowdy but I think that helped us focus."

And when Marcus Semien struck out to end it, Tampa Bay players raced out of their dugout to celebrate and put on fresh playoff T-shirts and caps. Once in the clubhouse, the Rays drenched Morton with booze.

"It's a beautiful thing hav-

ing the lowest payroll in baseball and having the success we did," center fielder Kevin Kiermaier said before the game. "It always feels good to stick it to the man any time you're able to in this game, and that's something to be very proud of."

The A's have lost nine straight winner-take-all games since 2000, going 1-15 with a chance to advance to the next postseason round. Their only win came in 2006 against the Twins before being swept in the AL Championship Series

by the Tigers.

A year ago in the wild-card game, Oakland's first time back in the playoffs since 2014, the A's fell behind fast and lost 7-2 at Yankee Stadium. They won 97 games again to earn a wild card.

This game had a far different feel in the familiar, friendly confines of the Coliseum, but the A's dug themselves another quick hole.

And the visitors were the ones putting on a happy home run show this time. Oakland, which hit a franchise-record 257 homers, is 0-6 in winner-take-all playoff games at home since 2000.

Even a day earlier, Rays manager Kevin Cash wasn't sure Diaz would play given how much time he missed during the season's second half.

Diaz returned for the finale last Sunday at Toronto after being sidelined since July 23. He played in just 79 games this season, 22 of those at first base with 17 starts.

"He probably caught us off guard a little bit with how quickly he turned around over the last five, six days," Cash said.

Never one to shy from the unorthodox—the Rays used four outfielders against Matt Olson. Cash started Diaz at first to make sure his best bat against lefties was in the lineup.

Kiermaier noted Diaz is "just one of those guys, he just wakes up out of bed and rakes. Everyone knows him for his muscles and what he can do in the weight room and stuff like that, but the guy finds the barrel so much throughout this whole season, and any time

we're able to have him available, we're happy."

Morton, with a career-high 16 wins and his best ERA yet of 3.05 this season, counted on his playoff experience giving him an edge. He won Game 7 of the ALCS and World Series for the Astros in 2017.

Morton gave up five hits without an earned run over five innings. He struck out four and walked three in his seventh postseason start and eighth appearance, having spent the last two seasons with Houston.

The right-hander walked Mark Canha to load the bases with two outs in the first before retiring Jurickson Profar on a flyball and had already thrown 32 pitches.

Morton quickly settled in and once his turn was done, the Rays' shutdown bullpen did the rest.

"When the first inning ended, I kind of said to myself, we were fortunate to have Charlie Morton on the mound. We get the 1-0 lead. A young pitcher in that situation, that environment, you just wonder how he's going to be able to handle that," Cash said. "But Charlie, been there, done that, his veteran, his experience, I think allowed that. And I would still say, I don't think Charlie was at his best today, but he certainly made his best pitches when they counted the most."

Semien reached third on a three-base error by third baseman Mike Brosseau in the third and scored on Ramon Laureano's sacrifice fly. Oakland did little else.

Diaz hit the fifth pitch of the night from Sean Manaea over the wall in right-center.

## Yanks have many roster and lineups decisions to make

NEW YORK (AP)—New nameplates greeted Yankees players in their clubhouse ahead of the Division Series against Minnesota: "OCTOBER SAVAGES" is spelled out under each number, a reference to manager Aaron Boone's famous tirade at an umpire in July.

As players worked out at Yankee Stadium on a summer-like Wednesday, Boone maintained many roster decisions have yet to be made.

"First, we'll go through the 13th pitcher and then what makes the most sense as far as what gives us the best option off the bench," Boone said before the workout. "We'll meet as a staff after the workout and hopefully finalize whether it's 12 or 13."

Edwin Encarnación, who hasn't played since Sept. 12 because of a strained left oblique, appears set to return. The 36-year-old hit in a simulated game for the second straight day and homered off left-hand-

er Jordan Montgomery.

"I think yesterday was a little confidence-builder for him as far as the ability to let it go and then coming in today feeling like he's ready," Boone said.

Encarnación hit .249 with 13 homers and 37 RBIs in 44 games for New York, which acquired him from Seattle on June 15. He made 12 appearances at first base for the Yankees, but figures to be used by Boone primarily as a designated hitter in the postseason.

"Whatever he needs me to do, I'm ready for," Encarnación said.

Bothered by a strained left groin that sidelined him between Sept. 12 and last Friday, Gary Sánchez also hit in simulated games this week. He was 1 for 6 at Texas last weekend.

"Took some at-bats to try and get my timing back," Sanchez said through a translator. "I feel like I'm seeing the ball better. ... I'm looking forward to Friday."

New York went 103-59 and won the AL East for the first time since 2012 \_ despite 30 players going on the injured list for a total of 39 stints.

Several players finished the season in deep slumps. Luke Voit struggled in his return from a sports hernia, ending 1 for 33, including 0 for his final 12. He could be dropped from the roster and replaced at first by DJ LeMahieu, and Voit's roster spot could go to rookie Mike Ford, who from Aug. 17 on hit .379 with eight homers and 17 RBIs.

Shortstop Didi Gregorius hit .163 with three homers and 17 RBIs from Aug. 24 on. Boone could shift Gleyber Torres from second to shortstop, put LeMahieu at second and start Ford at first.

"I'm counting on Didi having a huge role for us," Boone said. "I know he struggled here a little bit in this final month, but I know that it's certainly in there. He's one of those guys that I feel like

will be better off in this kind of environment, these kinds of games."

Gio Urshela, who gained the third base job after Miguel Andújar got hurt, ended in a 3 for 28 slide and sprained his left ankle in Sunday's regular-season finale. Urshela, who tested the ankle Wednesday and said he was ready to play, remembered being with Cleveland at Yankee Stadium during the 2017 Division Series and anticipates a raucous crowd.

"I've been here for the playoffs but I've seen the other side," Urshela said of the home crowd. "So it's going to be fun the whole series."

While James Paxton, Luis Severino and Masahiro Tanaka are set as starting pitchers, Boone still has not finalized their order.

"Hopefully finalize that today but still going through a couple of conversations on that," Boone said. "I want to get with each guy and let them know where we're at."



# Steph sees chemistry with D'Angelo developing quickly



**SAN FRANCISCO**—Steph Curry and D'Angelo Russell worked out together a couple of times over the summer. But skill development sessions aren't the same as playing 5-on-5 within the construct of an actual NBA team.

On Tuesday, they finally took the floor as teammates at the Warriors' first training camp practice. And they were back at it on Wednesday.

"It's fun. You can see the potential of how we work off each other," Curry told reporters after concluding his individual work. "It's no secret—I like to play with the ball and off the ball. I know he can do the same."

"Our formula—whoever gets the rebound, whoever is closest to the ball, get it and go. And the other guy just run. That's gonna be fun to watch, having a playmaker like that that can put the ball on the floor and create for others."

"He's obviously a knockdown shooter, too."

Curry averaged 27.3 points and 5.2 assists last year, making 43.7 percent of his shots from 3-point range.

With Klay Thompson sidelined because of his ACL injury, Curry and Russell will have plenty of opportunities to build a strong rapport.

"I think the chemistry will be developed very, very quickly in terms of how we work off each other and what we can accomplish together as a backcourt," Curry said.

Although the All-Star guards will share the court for about 20-25 minutes per night, there will be several times throughout each game when one is on the bench and the other is anchoring the offense.

"We're gonna for sure stagger Steph and D'Angelo so one of them is always on the floor generating offense," coach Steve Kerr told Howard Beck of Bleacher Report two weeks ago.

Whether they are playing alongside each other or watching the other hold down the fort, the No. 7 overall pick from the 2009 draft and the No.



From left to right, Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry, Draymond Green, Klay Thompson and D'Angelo Russell prepare for a photo shoot during the NBA basketball team's media day in San Francisco Monday, Sept. 30, 2019.

## Lonzo Ball unveils revamped jump shot

**METAIRIE, La.**—The first look at Lonzo Ball in a New Orleans Pelicans practice uniform has revealed a revamped jump shot.

Instead of bringing the basketball down near his left leg, up near his left shoulder and then moving the ball across his head to his right side before shooting, Ball has streamlined the shot to keep the ball more in the center and on the right side of his body as he gets ready to release the basketball.

Reporters first saw the jump shot at the end of Tuesday's practice and then asked him about it on Wednesday.

"I've been working on it all summer—as soon as I could get back on the court—trying to get it on the right side," Ball said.

Ball is working on improving his shooting form with longtime Pelicans assistant coach Fred Vinson, who has had simple advice for Ball: bring the ball straight up and use his

legs to get more power on the shot.

Vinson also helped Tyreke Evans become a better shooter, especially on 3-pointers, with New Orleans. Evans shot 22% on 3s in his first season with New Orleans, and two seasons later, Evans shot 38.8%. Vinson, who has studied the art and science of shooting, also helped Austin Rivers with his shot.

Ball shot 30.5% on 3-pointers his rookie season and 32.9% last season with the Los Angeles Lakers before a severe ankle sprain ended his year in January. The Pelicans would like him to increase that to about 35% this season, and it's a development worth following in what should be an interesting and entertaining Pelicans season.

"He's worked his butt off," Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry. "I think Lonzo's shooting the ball well, and I told him the major part of his thing is his confidence and consistency."

2 overall pick from the 2015 draft will constantly be communicating.

"For us to be successful, there's nothing that's gonna be understood. It's just gonna have to be talked about and worked on at practice," Curry explained. "You have to paint the picture and execute on the floor."

Meanwhile, the Golden State Warriors had already practiced for 2½ hours. That was much longer than Draymond Green usually endured in the past five years through five consecutive NBA Finals runs.

Yet even after the Warriors' first training-camp session ended Tuesday, Green darted from the court to a nearby

elliptical machine. About 20 minutes later, Green sat on a chair and enjoyed a smoothie filled with bananas, whey protein and tart cherry juice.

"I'm back on my playoff diet," Green said.

Usually, Green waits for the actual playoffs to showcase the best version of himself with his positional versatility as a defender and playmaker. This season, the Warriors' star cannot wait that long.

Green believes the Warriors will make the NBA Finals for a sixth consecutive season. The Warriors still have their accomplished front office, coaching staff and Stephen

Curry. They acquired All-Star guard D'Angelo Russell both to offset Thompson's absence and complement his presence when he returns. Lastly, the Warriors still have Green, whose outlook seems as healthy as his diet.

"You can look at it as the roster has been turned over and you have to figure it out. Or you look at it from the standpoint that it's been five years with the same band. Sometimes the band has been on tour for so long and then it gets harder," Green said. "You can look at it from that standpoint of there's lots of new energy and new hunger. That is needed, so that's the way I see it."

**Haier**

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# Jaguars owner has no plans to trade Ramsey



**JACKSONVILLE, Fla.** (AP)—Jacksonville Jaguars owner Shad Khan has no plan to trade disgruntled cornerback Jalen Ramsey.

Khan told The Associated Press on Wednesday that “the best thing is to have him be part of the team.” Khan spoke exclusively to the AP as part of his announcement that he’s becoming the majority investor in the Black News Channel, which will be the nation’s only 24-hour news network aimed at African American viewers.

Ramsey’s agent requested a trade Sept. 15 following a heated argument with coach Doug Marrone on the sideline and a much-less-public exchange with personnel chief Tom Coughlin following the 13-12 loss. Ramsey later told a podcast featuring NFL players that “once respect is lost for both parties, I think it is time to part ways.”

Khan, though, has no interest in dealing his star defender.

“Obviously, football is a team sport and I’m sensitive to what individual insight or viewpoint or requests (there) might be,” Khan said. “But we have to do the right thing for the team. We value the values Jalen adds to us, to the Jaguars. I think we value him highly. We’re still looking at what is the right thing for the Jaguars, and I think right now the best thing is to have him be part of the team.”

Ramsey missed his fifth consecutive practice Wednesday for various reasons, all since playing in a 20-7 victory over Tennessee and saying goodbye to several teammates afterward.

Ramsey missed one practice last week because of an illness, another because of his back and two more to be home for the birth of his second child. The two-time Pro Bowl cornerback rejoined the Jaguars in time to fly to Denver, but was unable to play against the Broncos.

It was the first game he’s missed in his four seasons, fueling speculation about the severity of his injury and his desire to play for the franchise.

The Jaguars seem to be doing everything possible to repair Ramsey’s



AP  
In this Nov. 18, 2018 file photo, Jacksonville Jaguars cornerback Jalen Ramsey, top, intercepts a pass intended for Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver Antonio Brown (84) in the end zone during the second half of an NFL football game, in Jacksonville, Florida.

shoulder during a 27-3 loss in Pittsburgh on Monday night that left Cincinnati 0-4 for the first time since 2008. The former first-round pick is eligible to return after eight games if the shoulder heals.

The third-year receiver was finally having a breakout season. After missing most of training camp with a hamstring injury, Ross led the Bengals with 328 yards receiving and three touchdown catches. He was Cincinnati’s only deep threat with Green recovering from an ankle injury suffered during training camp.

“You hate it for him and you hate it for this team,” quarterback Andy Dalton said. “He was a guy who was progressing and one of our key players.”

Ross was coming off two disappointing seasons. The ninth overall pick in 2017 was limited to three games as a rookie because of shoulder surgery. He finished with no catches and a fumble on his only carry. A groin injury last season limited him to 13 games with 21 catches for 210 yards and seven touchdowns, a hint at what he could become if he stayed healthy.

Ross and Tyler Boyd were carrying the passing game with Green hurt. Now, there’s little experience beyond Boyd. The Bengals elevated undrafted rookie receiver Stanley Morgan off the practice squad to fill the roster spot.

Second-year player Auden Tate, fourth-year veteran Alex Erickson and undrafted rookie Damion Willis fill out the receivers group.

Coach Zac Taylor said there’s a chance Ross could return late in the season.

“It’s tough news for him,” Taylor said. “He really worked hard to come back from the injury in training camp, and he was playing well. It’s tough to see a guy go through this when he’s fought through this before.”

fractured relationship with the front office, specifically with Coughlin. They didn’t question his illness. They defended his back injury. Marrone told him to return to Tennessee for the birth of his second daughter and said he would return “when he’s ready.”

Khan has taken a hands-on role, too.

“I’ve met with him,” Khan said. “I think my relationship with him is pretty good. This is not a request from me or a viewpoint from me. I have no issue, obviously. I’d love for

him to be part of the Jaguars.”

Jacksonville (2-2), which plays at Carolina (2-2) on Sunday, hopes winning will change Ramsey’s outlook on the team.

After losing quarterback Nick Foles 10 plays into the season opener, the Jags have had chances to win each of the last three games. Backup Gardner Minshew has become a household name while helping the team win consecutive games for the first time in more than a year.

Ramsey’s absence, though, was

noticeable against the Broncos as Joe Flacco picked on Ramsey’s replacement, second-year pro Tre Herndon.

“Obviously, we’re turning the season around and I think he can help the team,” Khan said.

## Another blow to Bengals

Meanwhile, the Bengals put receiver John Ross III on injured reserve Wednesday, the latest blow to a winless team that’s already missing star receiver A.J. Green.

Ross landed hard on his right

Less than a month after making his senior international debut for the United States men’s national team, Netherlands-born defender Sergino Dest was left off the USMNT roster for upcoming CONCACAF Nations League games against Cuba and Canada.

Just 18 years old, Dest has broken into the starting lineup with Ajax this season, drawing interest from the Royal Dutch Football Association. According to multiple reports in the Netherlands, Oranje manager Ronald Koeman recently met with Dest to convince him to switch his international allegiance. Dest, whose father is American, has represented the U.S. at various youth levels, including at the FIFA under-20 World Cup earlier this year, but remains eligible to play for the three-time senior

## Dest left off USMNT roster for Nations League

World Cup runner-up.

That wouldn’t be the case if he took the field for the U.S. this month. Unlike the friendly matches against Mexico and Uruguay that Dest started for the U.S. in September, competitive games—like the Nations League—would permanently tie Dest to the American program.

However, in announcing his 26-player squad on Wednesday, U.S. coach Gregg Berhalter left the door open for Dest to rejoin the Stars and Stripes.

“I understand there is going to be a lot of attention surrounding the availability of Sergino in this next camp,” Berhalter told U.S. Soccer’s website. “I’ve had conversations with Sergino, the conversations were positive, and the

content of these conversations is going to remain private.”

Chelsea’s Christian Pulisic rejoins the national team after a tough spell with the English power. The 21-year-old skipped the Uruguay match to return to London early but hasn’t made a Premier League appearance since August, although he did play the full 90 minutes (and notched an assist) in last week’s Carabao Cup win over fourth-tier Grimsby Town. With Canada the tougher of the two matches, Pulisic is not expected to be released early this time.

Veterans Jozy Altidore and Michael Bradley return to the squad after missing last month’s matches because of

club commitments. So do England-based defenders Matt Miazga and DeAndre Yedlin, who both recently came back from injury, and Paul Arriola, who wasn’t available last month because of family reasons. “We have some key players that have been out, but it’s nice to get them back into the fold,” Berhalter said. Tyler Adams, John Brooks, Alfredo Morales and Tim Weah remain sidelined by injuries, while winger Duane Holmes was overlooked.

The biggest surprise on the squad was the inclusion of 18-year-old Philadelphia Union midfielder Brenden Aaronson, who has played more than 1,600 minutes this

season for MLS’s fourth-best club. Aaronson is the only player included who hasn’t been in camp before.

“Entering this competitive phase, one thing that’s important is we continue some of the younger guys along, integrate some new players into camp, but also have a familiar base,” Berhalter said. “We think that continuity will help in our performance.”

Here’s the full roster:

**Goalkeepers:** Brad Guzan, Atlanta United; Sean Johnson, New York City FC; Zack Steffen, Fortuna Dusseldorf (Germany)

**Defenders:** Reggie Cannon, FC Dallas; Nick Lima, San Jose Earthquakes; Aaron Long, New York Red Bulls; Daniel

Lovitz, Montreal Impact (Canada); Matt Miazga, Reading (England); Tim Ream, Fulham (England); DeAndre Yedlin, Newcastle (England); Walker Zimmerman, LAFC

**Midfielders:** Brenden Aaronson, Philadelphia Union; Michael Bradley, Toronto FC (Canada); Sebastian Lletget, LA Galaxy; Weston McKennie, Schalke (Germany); Christian Pulisic, Chelsea; Cristian Roldan, Seattle Sounders; Wil Trapp, Columbus Crew; Jackson Yueill, San Jose Earthquakes

**Forwards:** Jozy Altidore, Toronto FC (Canada); Paul Arriola, D.C. United; Corey Baird, Real Salt Lake; Tyler Boyd, Besiktas (Turkey); Jordan Morris, Seattle Sounders; Josh Sargent, Werder Bremen (Germany); Gyasi Zardes, Columbus Crew





# Connie's BBQ ties best record in elimination

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER



Connie's BBQ won its last game in the regular season of the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League after topping Max's Restaurant, 88-70, last Wednesday at the Civic Center Court.

Connie's finished the round-robin elimination with a 9-2 record, the same mark Tsingtao Boyz earned. Both teams are now in the playoffs with Tsingtao getting the No. 1 seed and Connie's settling for No. 2 due to the win-over-the-other rule.

Kerwin Dayao and Nelson Cabang teamed up in handing Connie's its ninth win after scoring 20 and 18, points respectively. They combined for 18 points in the first quarter, as Connie's took the lead early and never relinquished it en route to the double-digit winning margin.

Joel Danao also contributed to Connie's lopsided victory, as he delivered 8 of his 13 markers in the fourth quarter where his team finished off Max's with a 22-10 scoring surge.

Max's Restaurant is also done for the season, wrapping up the elimination with a dismal 2-9 record.

## Gilas Batang 60, IT&E Dark 58

In the second game last Wednesday, Gilas Batang edged IT&E Dark.

It was Gilas Batang's second straight win, but the victory was too late, as the team has been eliminated. With its 2-8 mark, Gilas Batang is at the No. 11 spot in the team standings, while IT&E Dark finished the regular season with a 5-6 slate and is moving into the playoffs with seven other squads.

Alken Ege showed the way for Gilas Batang after logging 16 points, while Erwin

62nd, and 64th minute, respectively.

Earlier in the 28th minute, Allyssya Mae Angeles drew first blood for TanHoldings, while Relucio notched her first goal in the 32nd minute for the team's shaky lead, 2-1.

Shirley's got its first goal from Joannah Carreon in the 28th minute, while the other one came from Katrina Costales in the 51st.

Shirley's is winless in three games and hopes to break its losing streak this Saturday when it takes on MP United at 2:30pm. The two other pairings tomorrow will have Southern United battling Kanoa and TanHoldings meeting Matansa.

the fastest runner in the boys division after clocking in at 5:42 and the latter's Allie Brasuell winning the girls event at 6:12. Jose Sablan (6:05) and Patrick McDonald (6:07), who are both from SCS, made it to the Top 3 in the boys division, while San Vicente School's Alyssa Mendiola (6:18) and SIS' Suki Peng (6:23) did the same in the girls race.

For the boys U7 division, SIS' Jude Rayphand completed the course in 6:04 to prevail against Agape's Benjamin Cai (7:23) and Mt. Carmel School's Franko Tudela (7:25).

In the girls U7, SIS had a 1-2 finish with Leilani Ruszala placing first with her 7:19 and Windsor Gross (7:27) at second. San Vicente's Elleayah G. Cruz (7:30) rounded out the Top 3.

Meanwhile, the third qualifier will be held this Saturday, also at the Saipan Country Club. The second leg of the series took place at Banzai Cliff with the results taken from the times of the runners in the SIS-sponsored Gecko 5000.



Lumanuan added 13 points, including the last three crucial markers in the close match.

## RNV Construction 71, Light and Salt 66

Meanwhile, RNV Construction continued its uphill climb in the team standings after getting win No. 7 following its 5-point victory over the eliminated Light and Salt. RNV now has a 7-2 record, moving up to third place in the rankings behind Tsing-

tao and Connie's and slightly ahead of Mawati (7-3).

RNV scored at least 20 points in each of the first two quarters to gain control of the game and then withstood Light and Salt's rally in the second half.

RNV took a 13-point lead in the first quarter, 25-12, and stretched it to 15 at the break, 45-30. Ronald Rueda led RNV in the first half with his 16 points and finished the match with a game-high 31.

Light and Salt fought back in the fourth quarter behind Rommel Usi, who fired 16 of his 29 markers in the final frame, but his team still failed to make it to the win column. Light and Salt fell to a 0-10 record and has only one game left in the elimination.

## WEDNESDAY First Game

**Connie's BBQ 88**—Dayao 20, Cabang 18, Danao 13, Bongacan 9, Rodriguez 8, Es-

KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
Connie's BBQ's Nelson Cabang, third left, is challenged by two Max's Restaurant defenders during the third quarter of their game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Wednesday at the Civic Center Court.

mores 7, Centina 6, Barbo 3.

**Max's Restaurant 70**—Herrera 29, Salalila 18, Paynor 11, Lerio 7, Balignasay 3, Banasco 1, Tibayan 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 28-20, 48-41, 66-60, 88-70.

Second Game

**Gilas Batang 60**—Ege 16, Lumanuan 13, Estobes 8, Tibayan 7, Hernandez 6, Alviz 4, Rosario 4, Acosta 2.

**IT&E Dark 58**—Mateo 16, Cabanas 10, Aguon 9, Dayrit 7, Devero 6, Duero 4, Garcia 2, Peredo 2, Brana 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 13-6, 26-23, 46-41, 60-58.

## TUESDAY First Game

**RNV Construction 71**—Rueda 31, Corpuz 9, Rueda 6, Baul 6, Naval 5, Tagle 4, Taraya 4, Odicta 2, Biscocho 2, Corong 2.

**Light and Salt 66**—Usi 29, Pineda 11, Embile 8, Bautista 8, Laxamana 6, Claveria 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 25-12, 45-30, 59-45, 71-66.

# CUC pulverizes Coca-Cola

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER



Commonwealth Utilities, Corp. crushed Coca-Cola, 90-43, in the second match of the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

CUC wasted no time in dominating Coca-Cola, as it posted a 31-19 lead in the

first half. Despite the double-digit lead, CUC was not done yet, as it hammered Coca-Cola in the third quarter after sizzling for 37 points for a huge 69-25 lead.

Eugene Manglona led CUC's demolition of Coca-Cola in the third period after recording 14 points, while Ray Pestillos added 8.

Manglona finished with a game-high 31 points, making up for his 2-point output in the first quarter that ended with CUC ahead by just 9 points, 18-9. Manglona then began

hitting his target in the second period, as he scored CUC's first 10 points and matched Coca-Cola's total production for the their 12-point advantage at the break.

Frederick Dionisio, Pestillos, and John Santos also helped give CUC the upper hand in the first half, as they combined for 14 points.

The trio still contributed some points in the third period, while Coca-Cola was held to 6 markers off two field goals to hand the victory to CUC with still one full quar-

ter to go. Melvin Capalad and Mark Nuique scored the only two baskets for Coca-Cola in the penultimate frame.

Despite getting the sure win, CUC did not allow Coca-Cola an inch of redemption, as the former still outgunned the latter in the fourth period, 21-18.

**CUC 90**—Manglona 31, Pestillos 12, Nekaifes 11, Santos 11, Taisacan 9, Dionisio 6, Dela Cruz 6, Lieto 4.

**Coca-Cola 43**—Capalad 17, Cabrera 10, Felix 9, Nuique 5, Estoque 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-9, 32-19, 69-25, 90-43.

## BRIDGE

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with Atkins Kroll, Aqua Resort Club, and The Game for the fifth to ninth place in the team standings, as the five squads hold similar 2-3 records.

MS Villagomez earned the 10-point win, as it led right from the get-go and ran a balance offense.

Chioni Dela Cruz and Anthony Lajara scored 7 points each in the fourth quarter for MS Villagomez's double-digit winning margin. Dela Cruz finished with 10 points, the same output MS Villagomez got from Eli Augenbaugh, Steve King, and Don Teregeyo,

while Lajara had 9. Shane Deleon top-scored for MS Villagomez with his 13 markers.

In the second game, Bridge Capital was also in control of its duel against TanHoldings to take the easy win.

Actually, Bridge Capital had the victory in the bag after the first quarter, as it built a commanding 35-9 lead.

Austin Camacho starred in Bridge Capital's jackrabbit start after exploding for 14 points in the opening period. Matt and Manny Duenas and Ray Cabaltica backed him up, as the trio combined for 15 more markers.

Camacho and Matt Duenas ended up finishing with 26 and

22 points, respectively, with the former having a double-double, as he also recorded 11 rebounds. Four other Bridge Capital players tallied twin digits with Freddie Pelisamen logging 19 points, Cabaltica and Eric Deleon Guerrero contributing 14 apiece, and Ernest Duenas posting 13.

Kerwin Dayao had 28 points on a losing effort for TanHoldings, which has yet to win in six games.

## First Game

**MS Villagomez 77**—Deleon Guerrero 13, Aughenbaugh 10, King 10, Teregeyo 10, Dela Cruz 10, Lajara 9, Manibusan 6, Kwon 5, Guerrero 2,

Pangelinan 2.

**Mystique BBQ 67**—Jandoc 23, Bernardo 19, Dancel 10, Gaviola 5, Torres 5, Isip 3, Moises 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 17-15, 39-30, 56-49, 77-67

## Second Game

**Bridge Capital 126**—Camacho 26, M. Duenas 22, Pelisamen 19, Cabaltica 14, Deleon Guerrero 14, E. Duenas 13, M. Duenas 9, Teregeyo 7, Rangamar 3.

**TanHoldings 74**—Dayao 28, Terepere 12, Deleon Guerrero 8, Echavez 8, Centina 6, Lumen 6, Torregosa 6.

**Scoring by quarters:** 35-9, 70-30, 95-44, 126-74.

## EASY

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while Decena closed out for the team with her shot in the 68th.

In the other match in the division, TanHoldings also blew the game wide open in the second half for its third straight victory.

Tamia Hix anchored TanHoldings' breakaway in the second half after logging a hat trick. She got her first goal in the 48th minute and the second and third in the 53rd and 60th. Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez, Rizza Relucio, and Jenny Ann Capayas also delivered for TanHoldings in the second half after scoring in the 56th,

## SIS

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to finish ahead of SIS' Rigel Divey (10:13). Doyean Lee, also from SIS, came in at third after recording 11 minutes. In the girls U14, Agape's Emma Pang submitted 11:35 for a close victory over SIS' Dain Lee (11:36), while the former's teammate Joy Wu (13:01) rounded out the Top 3.

In other results, Brilliant Star School's Moshe Sikkell won the boys U12 race after finishing the one-mile course in 5:07. Saipan Community School's David Ye was the runner-up finish with his 5:17, while Agape's Danny Cheng (5:44) came in at third.

In the girls U12 age group, Zhixiang Lin gave Hopwood Middle School the victory after timing in at 5:30, while Agape's Barbara Wang (5:40) and SIS' Gyuhen Park (5:44) completed the Top 3.

In the U9 age group, SIS and SCS split the top honors with the former's Finn Altizer





Rays beat Athletics in AL wild-card game

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Steph sees chemistry with D'Angelo developing quickly

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## SIS shows way in cross-country

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
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REPORTER

Saipan International School had a 1-2 finish in the U18 division of the first qualifying race in the 2019 All Schools Cross-Country Championships Series held late last month at the Saipan Country Club.



The Geckos' Ken Song topped the official kickoff of the series held last Sept.

21 and ruled the boys U18 division after completing the 3-mile course in 13:39. Song's schoolmate, Kuu Nishiumura, finished the three-lap race in 14:15 to place second in the division, while Agape Christian School's Kobe Yang was ranked third with his 14:20.

In the girls U18 age group,



LINDSAY NASH

Runners head out to the course during the first qualifier in the 2019 All Schools Cross-Country Championships Series held late last month at the Saipan Country Club.

SIS' Anika Snyder came out on top, finishing the course at 16:43. Snyder was closely followed by her fellow Lady Gecko, Tiana Cabrera, who timed in at 16:45, while SIS

completed the sweep in the division, as Sofia Osnach placed third after posting 18:02.

While SIS lorded it over in the U18 division, Agape took first place honors in both the

boys and girls U14 age groups. The Torchbearers' Allen Luo completed the boys U14's 2-mile course in 10 minutes

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## Easy wins for TanHoldings, Kanoa

TanHoldings Football Club and Kanoa Football Club coasted past their respective opponents in the girls U16 division of the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

TanHoldings registered an 8-1 victory over Shirley's Football Club to remain undefeated in three games. Kanoa matched TanHolding's 3-0-0 win-draw-loss record following a



similar easy triumph over MP United Football Club, 8-3, in the other game in the division.

Paulyn Joyce did the damage for Kanoa after firing six goals, while Lynzey Green and Desiree Decena



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

chipped in one goal apiece.

Green scored right in the opening minute of the match, while it took MP United a while to hit the board as Aubrey Castro made the equalizer in the 27th minute. Joyce's second goal, posted in the 31st minute, gave the lead back to Kanoa, but MP United ended trying the match at the break, thanks to Audrey Castro's conversion in the 33rd minute.

At the resumption of the game, Audrey's sister, Aubrey, found her target in the 36th minute and handed MP United the lead. However, MP United's stay on top was short-lived, as Joyce took over the rest of the way, making one goal after another. The Kanoa forward scored in the 45th, 52nd, 54th, and 61st minute,

**See EASY on Page 31**

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

TanHoldings Football Club players do warm-up drills before facing Shirley's Football Club in the girls U16 division of the 2019 NMIFA Fall Youth League last Saturday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Bridge Capital, LLC's Matt Duenas, right, goes up for a reverse layup against TanHoldings' Michael Torregosa during their game in the 2019 Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

## Bridge Capital, MSV triumph

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Bridge Capital, LCC and MS Villagomez notched their second win in the 2019 Atkins Kroll Marianas International Basketball League last Tuesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



Bridge Capital walloped TanHoldings in the nightcap, 126-74, while MS Villagomez outclassed Mystique BBQ in the first game, 77-67. With their victory, Bridge Capital and MS Villagomez are tied

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